

Maou na Anoko to Murabito A - Volume 01

Chapter 01-03

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Images

The Demon Princess and Villager A
~ My Childhood Friend is a Hero ~

The school is a training ground for people who become part of the Fantasy world. Unfortunately, very few people have «Warriors» or «Villains» types of «Character»; a large majority of people can only become a «Villager».

I, Satou, am also one of the «Villagers». One day, I attracted the attention of a girl having the characteristics of a «Meas» - Ryugamine Ouka. She is cute as well as nice and courteous, however, she will unexpectedly say "I really want to exterminate human kind!" or other similar phrases. I really wish she could change a bit. I am also the childhood friend of a maddening and rebellious «Hero» - Hikarigotou Tachibana, a person who would always bring about trouble. She is a super beautiful girl! Whenever she thinks of something, she will recklessly and thoughtlessly advance forward...

As the person caught up in the middle, what should I do?!



Kadokawa
Fantastic
Novels

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Kadokawa
Taiwan



Yukirin

What encourages me to write are toys, movies and food. Lately I've been spending more and more time cooking in the kitchen. During my free time, I would appear in Ankan, Akabara, Shinjuku etc. A portion of my darkness is due to demands, so I am currently sealed up recharging myself.

[Kadokawa Fantastic Novels]

Cover Spread

Everyone needs to get along!

Be Wary of!

《Maou》



《Heroine》



Keep Watch!

Trust?



childhood friend!

《Villager 'A'》

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Chapter 1

Chapter 1

To Be Edited:

From childhood, we have been told that we possess a unique <<character>>.

Whenever we heard people say that everyone is different, that maintaining our own values is good, and that differentiating ourselves further is even better, we would-how should I put it... feel a sort of excitement and happiness brought from our feeling of individuality. We are individuals. In this world no two people are the same. In other words, I believed I was 'special'

Upon further analysis of this line of thought, it becomes apparent that everyone also hears these words, they too believe in individuality. In the end, it seemed like we were similar through our differences. Unfortunately, I had never fully analysed, nor considered this issue, in fact, even if I had paid attention, I think I would've believed that I, myself am the only special one. In this case, it is guaranteed that I am not the only person that believes that they are special.

However, I only had this way of thinking at the beginning.

Afterwards, by watching others gradually change, using their character to excuse "not being able to study" and "being bad at physical exercise" I begin to feel there is something strange going on.

Isn't that what character is?

Following that idea and continuing without narrowing that line of thought, the excitement that I felt initially after hearing about <<Characters>>, like a balloon bought from a 'Ennichi' |1|, it gradually loses its air. At the same time, I began to understand the reasons why adults told us those words.

When I was roughly ten years old, I would intently listen to the words of adults, making amusing expressions in accordance with their words, believing them to be words of the gospel.

After entering fifth grade of primary school, the girls were the first to undergo

change.

During PE Lessons, Girls would separate from boys when changing their clothes, participation in sports carnivals and activities also became separated in male/female events. A lot of friends I used to play with stopped playing the same games with me. What should I say about this? It seems as though the overall shape of the girl's body had changed. Coming back from running during PE, don't we find...some difference in the smell of our sweat? Towards the female gender, the quick speed at which they pass through puberty make it seem as though they are becoming another species of existence. I continually feel a type of feeling -an uncomfortable feeling. However, other boys also underwent the change, following their nature, they began to harass¹ those of the opposite gender.

In comparing with females, I, a male, can be said to have had little change, unlike the change of the female body, which can be comparable to a comedy skit mixed with movie special effects. Even entering junior high², my voice underwent change, my body³ stretched up and pubic hair began to grow on my body. However, my rate of change, if put simply and directly, it is not worth making note of.

Using the changes to the female as an example, there is no need to go into the changes I had.

And then ...

At that time, I want it to not only be me — everyone, and even the change of the comedic leveling up far exceeds that of the male species. From my observations in comparison to the male gender, the ones that need to be special is the majority of girls⁴. But from this I begin to understand the adult's word of "character". What one person says is and what is not, is 'dependent on their own nature'.

The reason is extremely simple and easy to understand.

Because at the time, "the real thing" or something like "the real thing" would come to show their qualities. As they grow like the sprouts of a seed, it becomes obvious, their growth supports the fact that they are not the same as us.

Their change can be considered the same as the atmosphere felt in a movie.

Even as one of the mere mortals among others like me, some dare to say that their character is very special, fully aware of the characteristics of the real things.

From what we have seen till now, we finally understand why adults take care to strongly emphasize and push individuality onto us.

The reason is very simple.

Because no matter the intention, the result will still affect others, we will from then onwards truly face it, it is better to wait until after the sun has risen up such that the regular morning mists and the uncertainty has disappeared, because adults want to let us come to an understanding. During our lifetimes, no matter the circumstances, no matter what happens, we will only be the supporting actor.

Therefore, adults will pour their heart and strength in order to come up with ideas to not let us feel the same regrets that they previously had or their own self depreciation.

To Be TLCed

Yet the way in which they come up with the method, is mostly to sell the idea of individuality. The adults' aim, mainly to let us believe that we individually are very special.

Unfortunately, it is very hard to say that this method that this method is successful.

For example, if it was said that I was a rock from a river bed, ignoring the differences in size and shape, a rock is a rock no matter how you look at it. Yet in the face of diamonds, emeralds, rubies and other precious stones... there is really no way for me to lift up my head, stick out my chest and proudly declare that I am special. Some people are able to lie through their teeth to say that, but I can't

Therefore, I—we will from early on accept ourselves as ordinary, come to grips with ourselves, and endorse the fact that we have an ordinary “character”.

And yet, if it is asked whether or not we envy those who truly had individuality.....the answer is maybe not.

Maybe like that.

From looking at them, I innately come to feel, what special really is—it is not fully good, nor fully bad, but something that really stands out.

At the same time, inside I understand, what everyone says special is, it is something that exceeds the bounds of knowledge and personality, someone that everyone around them has called special right from the start.

Thus, from when I came to understand that, if asked whether or not I want to follow them, follow those that have a 《Persona》—ah, I will have to politely decline.

I don't need the role of 《Hero》, 《Maou》 or 《Wizard》—even having the role of a 《Villager》, for me, I feel that I already have too much character.

Before graduating from the government middle school, I continuously carry that idea.

If it is not so much like this, I really have no idea how to support the way in which we live.

“My.....My biggest hatred is of the human race ! ”⁵

On the first day of middle high life, in a seating pattern set out as male/female, sitting in front of me is a female student with extremely long hair. During the once a year student introductions held after changing classes, after announcing our names to the class, in such a clear voice that it is almost impossible to mishear that voice resounding around the classroom, the statement was made.

In that one moment, the classroom was shrouded in absolute silence.

I pretend in my heart that I misheard. Maybe she said she has a hatred of relatives⁶, maybe a really big issue needs to be considered, huh ? Or said, she has a hatred of Japanese Pekingese Dogs⁷ ? A type of dog similar to that of the pug dog.⁸ I am have a very big hatred of that type of dog, Everyone, please don't mention that kind of thing in front of me—Like these slightly exaggerated possible meanings.

“May.....May I ask.....”

The female teacher using humongous katakana characters wrote on the

blackboard 'Jean Dekka' [9](#). Her stature was all but big and tall, the only thing about them was her impressive chest [10](#), letting out a smile that has been plastered on as though their cheeks have been forcibly pulled into place, standing there kneading her hands as though squeezing the skin of a watermelon.

TL rant: does anyone understand what I mean?

"Excuse me, Ryugamine student." [11](#)

Not Wrong.

She truly is called that name.

Ryugamine, Ryugamine Ouko. She just a moment ago had already described the way in which her name was written, her surname was written as Sakurako [12](#) and is pronounced as Ouko. [13](#) Actually why would you use that pronunciation? It turns out there are actually students in the class with people whose names are weird. Whatever, that sort of pronunciation is not one befitting that of a young lady. Perhaps it is simply the name of a character from a manga or else a certain role that reflects the name.

"What exactly did you just say.....?"

"Ueh!?"

Above? [14](#)

Not only me, I think everyone in the classroom lifts that heads up for a look. What is it ? Above seems to only be ordinary ceiling boards.

"eeeeeto....." [15](#)

Oh ? Ah, so it is that type of noise! In fact she did not say above, she only let out a weird noise out of surprise.

"I, I, I, I..."

So bad. [16](#)

I couldn't laugh.

"I.....I said ! "



Ryugamine Ouko straightened her spine, the whole person immobile. Her posture, 10 points for perfection. It is as though she has a steel support structure penetrating as deeply as possible into her body following along her back. Her stature can be felt as really short, maybe not even 150cm? A head of waistlength

black hair in the light rays shining from outside the window, the tidy and straight hair reflecting the light. Even though it is described that way, it should absolutely carry along the meaning that the hair is not shiny because it is oily and unclean. In conclusion, it is a hair of head that is able to move people.

“I: My biggest hatred is of the human Race! I only want to at the beginning of the new year, to firstly let everyone hear that point! Announcement complete!”

Ryugamine Ouko in a sound like a fuu fuu sound boldly saluted. To whom is she saluting to? Roughly at the teacher.

Big boobed teacher ... you really did not need to return the salute.

Ryugamine as though having passed through a large incident let out a huge sigh of air, and then in a normal manner similar to that of young girls, using her hands to press from her rear down on the checkered short skirt straightening it out, sat down. Her shoulders fell, relaxing as if having let something heavy off her chest.

Uwah...silence.

The entire classroom did not even have the sound of a crow or bird. Big boobed teacher blinked her purple eyes several times, let down the hand that involuntarily saluted, and then in an uncomfortable manner, put her hand together with her fingers crossed as if praying, praying her utmost to find words to say. She appears to be trying to grab onto something, and yet is unable to touch it, as if a malignant spirit (possible for youkai, check TLC) had hidden it away.

This group of mean spirited spirits truly cause people to overflow with anger. They are constantly seen coming out in exams, stealing the answers that were excruciatingly memorised at the last moment as if praying to Buddha for a miracle. Even if rumours say, they are the teachers, that for the sake of students, want them to carefully study what they learn in class, but this situation and that one should not be the same.

But-just regarding the most recent introduction, where was the main point in what was said?

I don't understand why she would specifically make an announcement about it. It is not about the previous Pekingese dog, nor is it a specific type of animal,

insect or food. Nor something in this world which someone would usually disclose their hatred of, it is as if it is a method such that the period of middle high life can be perfectly filled without problems due to misunderstanding. But if it was me, I would not reveal such a weakness to everyone.

And yet, what Ryugamine said is “Human kind”.

Why only that one single point, that level of thinking and criteria is truly too big, it is even bigger than what I can get my head around. Who does she intend to get into a fight with?

Unless she is a –《Persona》?

Maybe they already have been decided as one of the special children.

《Personas》, when grown up, they will automatically come under employ as a special government employee. In light of the fact that everyone has their own personality, going into their world, they are able to creat Games, Animes or Light Novels, they becomes the characters that everyone describes in relation to the 《story》.

As rumours go, inside the so called 《Fairy Tale World》¹⁷ describing a complex story world, 《Hero》, 《Wizard》 and others of that type of persona, they are able to display the power of their 《Name》. In simple terms, they have the ability to push themselves to the limit and use spells.

However, in this world, they are simply regarded as being a weird freak.

In the eyes of a normal person, those people’s 《character》 are always followed by trouble, yet they receive protection and benefits from the country. They do thing that bring about profits for this country, on this point, I am not clear about what they do, or what types of profits are reaped. After all, this matter is confidential.

Unfortunately, I know the 《Hero》 and 《Wizard》 rely on that kind of job; they live a highly glamorous kind of lifestyle. They are really wealthy. Similar to what is aired on the net and television, we are constantly reminded of their living situation. Their home is a large mansion in a place which we do not know about, driving around back and forth in an expensive car, but each year, they only need to work for a few months in order to sustain their lifestyle.

That world is not equal, the highest echelons of society is made up of that group of people. Like all us other normal mortals, even if you say you want the role of another, you can only be the role of 《Villager》, unfortunately 《Villager》 only does jobs that seem to be minimum wage, and in fact it is very labourous work. From what I know, there is no adult willing to do that kind of job for the sake of the job making them happy.

But as the rumours go, even from a young age, their 《Character》 can already be seen, constantly, just like Ryugamine uttering something alarming, something that will attract the attentions of everyone around the, those types of unsettling phrases –

But, I completely feel that in her words, that there is the slightest feeling of her trying her hardest.

Repeating that, her manner is too proper.

From what I know, 《Persona》, in order to display themselves, they become incapable of suppressing themselves. In fact, they take joy in causing people to think of their outstanding roles along with their unique fashion sense, also, the school rules especially agree to facilitate this point.

Yet, I can see the girl whose name is Ouka Ryugamine, wearing an ordinary uniform. What she spoke of – could possibly have come as a result of a 《Persona's》eccentric personality affecting her?

-In the time I was contemplating that idea, Ouka Ryugamine turned around. Not caring about my desires, she absolutely was not turning her head around because she had possibly heard my heart's distress¹⁸, but this sudden action, gave me no time to prepare are all. I looked her squarely in the face, unable to stop myself, I took in a breath of air.

Truthfully, I am extremely amazed.

From hearing her recent words, I originally thought that she should be a very bad lady, but very unexpectedly, Ouka Ryugamine would not be described only as a beautiful girl, but should be described to have a cute doll like face. Because the sound of her voice once heard can not be said to be excessively high, therefore, the fact is that her growth is not fully cooked¹⁹, this point especially causes people to feel surprise.

But, she truly grew up to be extremely cute.

Even if we are talking about individuality, Ouka Ryugamine's face is already special enough by itself. Directly speaking, it is something totally different from any other person's existence. Even including that frightening manner of speech, yet in her face, it becomes murky and unclear. In this time, forgetting what is seen on television, to this day, I have not seen a girl so cute with my own two eyes. There is a saying that being beautiful is an advantage, but I feel that growing up to become cute also has the same advantages, so much so that I can't hold myself any longer, I just want to shout and rant that this world truly is not fair.

"...May I ask..."

She said something! Not right, for what reason am I making a fuss about nothing much? But she has her mouth open as if about to say something! Did she not say anything in the first place?

But in the end, my ordinarily simple mind, had already taken the words spoken out by Ouka Ryugamine and made them into an alarming idea, it already feels as if she is a special existence.

Her extra deep voice is extremely unbecoming of her youthful features, but they do not feel wrong for her. What has been said until now, her chest cannot be treated to having grown much during her growth spurt. However, in front of the big boobed teacher, it can be said the same for anyone.

"...Why are you not speaking?"

What do you want me to reply about? Nor is there anybody asking me questions. In other words, she has already asked me the question? Ah! Hard but not impossible, she's pointing out the previous matter? Yet it is said, she hopes to get my opinion as a classmate, in regards to the matter of her hatred of human kind and to provide an opinion on it? If this example is about that, for that I can only claim ignorance on the matter. But after all is said and done, I already won't not discuss the opposition's point of view, even I won't discuss personal matters in such a public setting.

In my conscious, I am coming up with different ideas on what is being asked, and yet — it really isn't like that.

The situation is not like that.

“Eeto...It is your turn? Introduction...”

Introduction?

I try to put on a calm façade, all the while my heart is letting out the despairing cry of that of a wounded beast.

True, I had already forgotten about that matter!

It seems that it is really my turn for self introductions! Because we are not going according to surnames, but are going through it according to the seating arrangement, so after Ryugaminehas finished, it became my turn!

Ah ah, how could I make such a sky reaching mistake within my thoughts!

How did I have thoughts about how she was specially asking for me to say something regarding a certain topic? What I needed was not a reason, I would not have my current mindset if that was such the case!

Huwah! Do you fully understand?

I tasted for the first time in my life the true taste of embarrassment! I can say with absolute certainty, all the times I have felt embarrassed before cannot be treated as having been embarrassed at all. Even including that time during the farewell assembly, where I was the only person out of the half of the the class playing one of the leading roles to make a mistake with their lines onstage, or during the times where I am unable to locate my diary and began making a fuss and randomly accusing others of taking it for a prank, when at the very end, it was located within my own storage locker. I have never felt this embarrassed before.

The me in this moment, has truly unwittingly walked into a very scary curse!

Calm down!

I need to calm down!

This situation can be found very often! Yet in this situation, would anyone around me understand why my heart is beating so urgently? Would Ouka Ryugamine understand? They are unable to figure out the reason.

I try my hardest to placate myself.

Gulping three times, I could not bear in any way to look at the questioning face of which the eyebrows had scrunched up that belonged to Ouka Ryugamine, I then proceeded to put her out of my line of sight and stood up.

Following that, I gave my self introduction and then sat down.

I think I should be doing it like this.

I should have given the name Satou Jirou, which is quite a common name, and declare towards every that I am an ordinary and a bit of personal information that is not unusual.

I only say should, it is because I can't remember.

I should have faced the front desk, spoken a few words, but for some unfortunate reason, I can't remember what I said. I've dug myself a hole, I might have given myself a ridiculous nickname that would cause people to smile bitterly if heard, I cannot be sure I said this.

No! I trust that I absolutely would not have done that!

After looking at her tilt her head, without a single word, turned around to faced the front, and then properly straightened her spine.

From that moment on, until the time the instructor finished, the only thing that i could remember is her back's figure.

Only having movement in her hair, her small and frail shoulders. No matter how you try to stretch it, her figure can't be called full, even without the uniform, it is easy to tell she has a small body. [20](#)

Regarding that matter, I know another who is a genuinely "special" girl.

"Mmh, after all they are the 《Maou》."

Another mere mortal alongside me is Saitou Hajime, on one hand ripping open the bag of fried noodle octopus roasted bread which he had bought from the canteen, on the other replying. The person discussed just now was not me. After all is said, what is up with the carbohydrate x 3 bread?

"Truth or a lie!?"

Another person, also from among the many normal people is Kimura Shouhei, while speaking took the crammed full of rice thermal bento box and delivered the contents to his mouth. Until this point in time, someone who lets the inside of his hair shine, most likely because of his plans to enter the baseball team. Why only those entering into the baseball team cannot leave their hair to grow long? I still don't feel that having long hair would affect a persons ability to play ball.

“Oi...Stop spitting out rice as you please...”

Saitou twisted his mouth in protest.

“Sorry.”

Kimura in a joking manner picked up all the rice that had fallen onto the table and ate them.

It is the truth.

Where has your side dishes gone? How in the world can you eat plain white rice in so contentedly. I ate what I made myself – even saying so myself, it is cold food – fried chicken bento, in a part of my heart, I consider whether or not to give a piece to them, but I do not want to make them feel as if they need to give me some next time.

Me giving food to everyone might be seen as me butting into their business, as such, I banished that way of thinking. In fact, he had already sprinkled salt onto the rice, again on it, if taking that bento, we can form a rice ball [21](#), if that is so, enquiring further and adding other products into the rice would become irrelevant.

“You really spoke the truth?”

At the sight of Kimura while tapping his chopstick, asked a question in reply.

“Again, making sure, however.”

Saitou displayed his teeth which were covered in seaweed, nodding his head in reply.

“After hearing her words, it is not hard to figure out right? In fact, her family is super rich. Ouka Ryugamine is not the same as us.”

I pretend not to have heard, the sound of his voice contained a slight hint of

envy; afraid Kimura is also the same. this is the silent agreement between us normal people of knowing, but not speaking it out loud, it is our way of dealing with the world. Even if we envy the items others have, but what we are unable to obtain, it is useless.

“Therefore said, her parents are also 《Persona》?” I ask.

“No, they are normal 《Villagers》, rumour says that they simply are rich. And it is not as if only personas are the only ones who are rich, is that not wrong?

About this matter.

“It is my first time seeing someone as a Maou.” Kimura said. “The school I previously went to didn’t have one. Satou, you?”

“My school also didn’t have any.”

Even so, there are other “special” people, but that person is a completely different girl compared with the Maou. Maou should have a type relevant rare ability, so rare in fact that within the whole country, there is roughly only 10 of them in existence. So meeting others opposite to that girl, the ability that they possess should be one that is rarely seen. Fact is, it is rare to find these two being in such close quarters together – it is truly a difficult to find rare event. Even so, that is not matter we should rejoice at.

Kimura while licking his chopstick, continued on to say:

“But, meeting the Maou seems like an ordinary occurrence.”

Ordinary? Is the inside ordinary?

It is as if my expression betrayed me, Saitou joked:

“Everyone is saying that. I have previously been in the same class as her for three years, at that time, I originally had that kind of thought. However, you will quickly come to understand, the truly amazing people is not that flock-”

Saitou covertly points towards towards the seat located behind, there is a weird person located there.

“-knowing about that person, from just a peek of Ouka Ryugamine, she seems to be the same as us.”

That type of person is very easy to explain. 《Witch》 will dress up in the manner of a 《Witch》, 《Necromancer》 would also dress up in such a manner following its theme. 《Rider》 and 《Swordsman》 types of people can be easily distinguished by sight from far away.

But Ouka Ryugamine is not the same. She wears the same uniform as us, in fact, there does not seem to be any unfulfilled satisfaction {this sentence looks like it is either in the wrong place or it is missing some context}. This matter is extremely weird. Because even including the girl I count as the most special, they constantly carry a replica sword on her back. Or it can be said, Ryugamine will only show her true features in a private?

“-Obviously like that.”

“Uwah!”

Suddenly, the sound of words came from the side of the desk, harmfully scaring me so that I nearly dropped the fried chicken in my hand.

Checking with my eyes, a familiar girl was crouched over the floor, sicsicsocsoc (onomatopoeia for something I think means sneaky) doing something I don't know, on her back was the case for carrying the replica sword, shaking from side to side in an uncaring manner.

Tsubasa Hikarigaoka... at what time did you pop out! And also, who is it that gave you permission look through my bag in such a happy and obvious manner!

“Don't randomly look through other people's stuff, idiot.”²²

I used the handle of my chopsticks and lightly knocked on Tsubasa's head of golden hair.

The slightly forward leaning Tsubasa, dicdicguuguu (onomatopoeia for who knows what) stood up and pushed her hair backwards. Under the uniform, her ample breasts swayed from the action of her arms, as if it would soon cause the outer clothing to tear apart. Following the rules of nature, Kimura and Saitou were forced to gulp back down their drool. Despite that, there is no way to compare this with the water melon sized boobs of the big boobed teacher, but her size can be comparable to a growing rockmelon, so it is not surprising that it will finish in the same way. Even though I have been used to it since an early age,

sometimes I still can't control my heart from racing.

“What about it.”

Tsubasa put her hand on her hips, facing away, looked at me out of the corner of her eyes. The supporting strap of the sword slid into the gap between her breasts, causing her chest to stick out in display. Even if Kimura and Saitou stare unblinkingly, does not give the slightest crap. The reason is simple, because this girl-our actions just don't register in her heart, so even if we all just stare at her, she will feel nothing towards it.



...I repeated the secret. Actually, even if I extend my hand and touch her, she would not react.

Following the example of a puppy burrowing under a skirt, it is not as if you would not kick the puppy away. Even so, she converses with us in a really normal manner, but originally, she is unable to put us onto the same plane of existence – not because she does not do it, but because she is unable to do it – from that, she will not have unhappy feelings. But, she will still feel embarrassed.

Even with that, on the other hand, I don't want to take action. We are all humans, yet it is not possible to be done. In another way of speaking, she would not consider us in the same category of human, meaning when she becomes unhappy, there is the chance for her to consider us in the same category as things that are not even human. She will uncaringly search through other people's bags for that reason.

However, I did not plan to obediently allow her to search through my school bag.

This is not for Personas who are the centre of《Fairy Tale World》. No matter what kind of special existence they are, this world did not come into existence from their common sense.

“Haven't I already mentioned, telling you not to without reason, randomly look through other people's school bag? This world isn't as if you can do anything you want. ”

“I understood from an early age.”

Tsubasa let out an unhappy hmph sound.

“Therefore, I will open your school bag. Unless you aren't allowing me to open it.”

“Why are you letting out an ‘I need to thank you’ aura! Since you understand, then there is no need to even open mine in the first place!”

“Ah, it is not possible. Absolutely nothing can be done about it.”

Tsubasa raised a hand, slightly tilting in our face.

“Because it is the nature of a 《Hero》.”

“How is searching through other people’s bags and desks considered a nature! I ask you, earlier, were you specifically waiting for when I wasn’t there, then went and searched under my bed, and then placed them out rather than returning them? You know that after my mum saw them, that night’s meal was filled with an awkward atmosphere!”

I repeatedly questioned Tsubasa, unsatisfactorily pouting my mouth.

“That matter was brought on by your own actions. Who told you to place sex magazines in such an easy to find place. You don’t have any sort of creativity!”

At the sight of Tsubasa with her shoulders shaking from laughter, friend Saitou, in a downcast manner clasped their hands together and said to me: “... Our condolences.”

Stop. That is really bad luck! As if I will from now on continue to meet incidents similar to this! Even if it is guaranteed to continue!

“Your friend?”

Towards Tsubasa’s sudden question, I immediately answer.

“This here is Kimura and this is Saitou. ”

“Kimura san, Saitou san, douzo yoroshiku. My name is Tsubasa Hikarigaoka, I am a 《Hero》.”

Tsubasa displayed a smile that she would absolutely not use on me, faintly smiled at them in a friendly manner, in fact, leaning forward slightly to converse. Oi, your chest is shaking.

Kimura and Saitou both were amazed in such a way that no words came out.

They wouldn’t normally react like that, not without reason. Because, personas, did not consider us mere mortals worthy of their care. Towards them, we are just like empty spaces in the air, only when they want to see us will we interact with them in return. Just like we would not take notice of the small ants beneath our feet

However, Tsubasa wasn’t the same.

Maybe it is because it is a specialty of the Hero, in conclusion, she would not just ignore our existence, absolutely wouldn’t. On the contrary, she would

frequently make small talk and interact with us, rather than uncaringly leaving us alone. Her main goal is to do good deeds, at the sight of someone having difficulties; she would extend a helping hand, all the while, whole heartedly participating in volunteering activities.

Therefore, Tsubasa is loved by everyone, everyone believes that she is a good person. Or most of it is due to being a Hero, the unmentioned parts – for example, tossing through other people's bags – only picking on me, as such, she will attract ridiculous events towards her, everyone will keep one eye opened, while shutting the other eye blind.

“Is this the first time that you have seen a hero?”

“That's, that's right...”

Saitou and Kimura replied in unison. You two, your eyes are shining. It won't be long before Tsubasa's Leadership qualities draw you in? I am not very sure of this, but according to rumour, that is one of the abilities infiltrated with her.

“– Therefore?”

Even if I was the one who broke the conversation topic, I know that if I continue to argue with her, I won't gain any victory, so I decide to change the topic, returning back to the original topic.

“Why is it now always true?”

“Wut?” Tsubasa displayed an expression of confusion “What did you say again?”

Why are you asking me a question in reply!

“Maou la Maou! I am asking you why she is so ordinary!”

Tsubasa suddenly came to an understanding, displaying a face full of uninterest. Her emotion, was the same as someone being asked why octopus balls contains octopus.

Looking at her, it is as if she feels the question was not worthy of being asked. Tsubasa seemed as though she was being asked a regular question, but still seriously answered the question.

Tsubasa leaned back on the table behind her and answered:

“That’s why she is only a Maou, because she is she. Only by her lonesome self, without having to rely on the support of other people. Me included, Persona’s have a reliance for supporters. Like in the other world where it allows me to keep being me, the object that I rely on such as my 《Emperio Sword》. Unfortunately, she, Maou can solely rely upon her own thinking, her thinking is the anchor to her existence. So with just a quick glance, it is unable to tell that there are any differences.”

Even after listening to your words several times, I am still unable to fully understand them. Look, Kimura and Saitou are also baffled.

Tsubasa let out a faint smile.

“You guys don’t understand what was said, right?”

Isn’t that smile having connotations as looking down on us as if we were idiots. Or is it that I over considered it, but that is inexcusable and brought about a wave of regret, containg a hint of malice in the smile.

“No, even if I do not know why, I still understand it!”

Is that true, Kimura?

Tsubasa, for a moment, let out an amazed expression, but her expression of amazement suddently changed into a happy smile.

...This matter, what are you gonna do about it?

I suddenly felt that those emotions contained a sense of unhappiness.

Finally, Kimura as if having pent up something really big.

“Your meaning is, her ideaology replaces the need for a physical object, compared to others, she is extreme, right? Because even including wizards and necromancers behind you, they will not one first meeting, immediately say something along the lines of ‘biggest disgust for human kind’.”

“So she had said those kinds of words!”

Tsubasa, what are you laughting at?

“Truly like the Maou! Even so, it is very similar to what the Maou would normally say. However, what you say is not wrong, Kimura san.”

...Kimura. Why is your face going red? You probably have misunderstood something, That person treats everyone she meets like that! You shouldn't think like that in a million years!

"Come, let me give you a suitable reward."

Tsubasa took from the pocket of her skirt, taking out something that she constantly keeps on person: a stamp that does not require an ink pad, and then taking off the lid, pressed onto the back of Kimura's hand. The stamp's picture for some unknown reason was the face of a rabbit. Maybe it is because she previously had an extreme liking of rabbit, kind of relationship.

"That is the Hero's symbol. You only need to do good deeds, by collection ten stamps before they fade away--"

"And ... and then?"

The sound of your laboured breathing is loud!

"-Then you will have extremely good health." [23](#)

Tsubasa as if saying "But the contents are secret" stuck up a finger, and placed it against her lips, at the same time, blinking an eye.

Not like that.

Kimura, Saitou. Why are you guys looking at me with those kinds of eyes. I completely do not understand what she is talking about with the good health. I also have not collected it before.

"So?"

Tsubasa returned the stamp to her pocket and asked, while looking at me.

"That most important Maou is currently where? I want to go and greet her."

"Don't know. Please, could you not say it as if I had hidden her somewhere."

"Wah, you don't know?"

Tsubasa uncaringly displayed a disappointed expression, while mumbling words blaming me. This person only deals with me so harshly.

Ah! You just said "Because you are a 《Villager》"! You are singling me out with that line!

...Really, that is enough.

Regarding my character, if taken from a game perspective, is an any time any place with no previous requirement carrier of information – if described in a cooler manner, it would be NPC – Non Playable Character²⁴, but that does not mean I will know everything that you want to ask me. Also on a side note, this type of character due to a troublesome technique would on reflex answer the 《Persona's》 questions.²⁵

“I roughly guess she is at the toilet.”

Saitou uttered.

You are really well informed. Even if you just saw her leave, you ability to solve the riddle of her location is supernatural. If it was me, I wouldn't know that girls would go to that place after leaving the classroom.

“Aah, it's like that! Thank you.”

This woman, would only treat all those other than me in such a close manner.

“Come, you also get a stamp.”

She once again took and the stamp and on the back of Saitou's hand pressed on the rabbit symbol.

No need to make a haha laugh, Saitou.

“She should be coming back really soon?”

“Aah, it is not like that.”

Saitou shook the hand with the stamp on it.

“She did not go to use the toilet. I don't think she will return so quickly.”

Tsubasa in an unsure manner, considered the thought.

It is hard to blame her for that, Because I also really want to know the reason. Saitou, I don't understand what you wanted to say?

Saitou laughed while replying to us.

“She goes and eats in the restroom. That rumour began during middle high school. A single person isolated and eating their lunch alone in the toilet – Ah, no

matter, in conclusion, it should be like that.”

“Is that the truth?”

I understand why Kimura would press his hand to his head. I also have no way of eating in the toilet. That place is use to excrete, not to eat. Also, it is really hard to describe that place as being clean. Or maybe it could be said, there is a huge gap in the difference between the gents and ladies.

“The Maou is eating her lunch alone in the toilet...”

Kimura tilted his neck, the manner is quite unexpected.

Truly.

I can reason what he could not explain. Ryugamine would eat in the toilet, maybe it is because she does not want others to know that she does not have any friends.

Maou would definitely not have students following her and eating lunch with her leaving her hurt, that point leaves me confused.

I thought because of her hatred of humans, being able to be isolated would be more of a match for her.

Back to the original matter, At the very bottom of it all, what is with the light in her eyes? That group of personas would not see us in the same line of sight, because she is the Maou, Personas according to what you said are self obsessed, not caring what others thing.

“I understand, I will return.”

Tsubasa as if nothing had happened, bluntly gave up.

“...Why do you need to return?”

“Yes, I will return!”

Pouting unexpectedly, she putting her hands on her hips and pushing out her chest. The originally ample chest of hers was pushed out further, letting Kimura and Saitou stare until both eyes were shining. Oi, you better learn to stop at the appropriate time. You may not care, but your actions have caused you danger from the other girls of this class as indicated by the cold disapproval from their

eyes.

“Because, it is rare for the Maou to be next to me. Because I am a Hero, I cannot leave this matter aside uncaringly?”

Please don't worry about this. Because you will only blow the matter out of proportions.

“No Problem!”

Tsubasa confidently shook her fist.

“Leave it all to me! I will protect this grade – No, I will protect the school, this whole town and not let the Maou harm it!”

No need for your troubles.

“See you! Jirou!”

So dangerous! During the motion of her turning around, the sword on her back nearly cut my face! But, Tsubasa did not even give it the slightest of her attention, not right, she was just ignorant of it, just left the classroom only caring about her own problems.

...Few, she can be considered gone.

“That is the first time I have met a hero.”

Kimura opened his mouth, Saitou also nodded his head in affirmation. Even saying that. After all, the Maou and the Hero, even if they are 《Special》 from amongst that group of people, they are special, a rare existence.

“But, you are truly freaky.”

Kimura in a heartfelt manner of admirability spoke to me.

“In what way am I freaky?”

“Normally, our group of people, would absolutely never be called using out names by those people in greeting. However, she not only call you by your surname, in fact she calls you with your first name as well, it is nothing more than a name!”

Oh, originally, the one you pointed at is that one.

“Because we have known each other for a long time.”

“How long do you mean by a long time? Do you mean during the period of government middle school?”

I faced Saitou, shaking my head in reply.

“Even longer compared to that. Very Regretfully, I – and that person are childhood friends.”

Tsubasa Hikarigaoka lives opposite me – the situation is like that.

Because of school zones, from when I was in kindergarten, we have been going to the same school.

Even so, during the time I was in kindergarten, not knowing the existence of heroes, from among us, she was already showing differences, at that time I could only feel something about that girl, she has a special lifestyle and happily plays the character of a heroine.

However, looking back carefully, at the time, she was already from an early age giving off the character of a Hero.

After graduating into primary school, Tsubasa’s need to help others changed to become harsher, changing to become more active, serious, even the teachers also discovered her being different. After all, without asking permission and looking through other people’s properties, invading people’s homes without their permission, in that name of helping others, using unrestrained force, in the name of justice, only considering the result, using that type of method to approach all issues.

Her methods are so extreme that I thought that that woman was a demon.

But after entering upper primary level of schooling, the situation seemed to improve. From that time onwards, 《Special》students would begin to take lessons that were different from us, studies that prepared them for future situations. At the same time, us normal people would mostly go around playing soccer or basketball, at the time, I did not understand what those people were doing.

Afterwards, Tsubasa began to carry a sword around with her, we understood

from then on, she – they are 《Special》, and we aren't.

Tsubasa Hikarigaoka's specific actions began to shrink down a lot, but did not completely stop. She just merely made smaller, condensed, reducing the area she converged to a centralised group.

Picking on me.

I became her locked on target.

Not only searching through the school bag, also invading homes and turning them into a mess, she only ever did these things to me. I don't know the reason. After asking several times, she merely replies that it is a Hero's character. That right, being called by the Hero without the use of a family name, perhaps being called like that is a really rare thing. But! I have to pay a price for that, I have to suffer through her exposing my childhood secrets! Because that person has even stolen a look through my diary! After finding about that incident during the first year primary school, I have not written a journal since that time: horrible, It is a habit that I have kept since that time.

So – Kimura, Saitou.

"You guys now understand the issues with the previous thing, do you want to switch places with me?"

Even saying so, I really want to do that. A boy being a childhood friend with the Hero, and now being stuck in the same class as the Maou, that kind of rare example, if you want, I can immediately switch with you.

"No need, I refuse."

"No need, I refuse."

A complete refusal coming from both of their mouths at me!

As it may be, the Maou, Ouka Ryugamine and I are just in the same class – my heart had that thought.

Tsubasa and I are childhood friends, we were already friends before she has even begun to display the character of a Hero, yet she can be called one of the more friendly among the Personas, otherwise, originally those types of people will not show an interest towards us normal people.

Now, our most important people – teacher, parents and 《Fairy Tale World》 related official personnel etc, you only need to be ordinary, they will all treat us with the same manner, not putting us in their site, causing people to be unable to resist doubting whether or not they are unable to see normal people

No matter what, me and the Maou – Ouka Ryugamine only sit closely together. From now, Tsubasa, that person has a very good chance of coming back uninvited again, resulting in me and those around me being affected, but that is a matter regarding those two people, I am completely a bystander – I wish it was like that.

However-

“I ... I wish to nominate myself!”

When the teacher returned to class and requested for nominees for class president, seeing a hand suddenly raised up into the air in front of my eyes, I had a sudden small moment of fright, having the immediate thought “The Maou wants to control the whole class” sort of unsettling though, there were no other thoughts associated.

But, big boobed teacher began to let show shivers of fear towards us students, looking around the classroom with eyes pleading for help. It is guaranteed, everyone, me included in the group, no one raised their hands.

That is guaranteed.

This is not something related to the fact that Ryugamine is the Maou, but because by government middle school third year, everyone knows that the position of class president comes with a lot of trouble. Not only dealing with small matters that arise from the teachers and students, they are also forced to carry the burden on dealing with the different wishes and ideas, unfortunately there is no rewards at the end of this job. It may be said that it is possible to beg the teacher to write a better reference letter for when you graduate, but the price you pay does not match the effort for effort, that is a point that is made clear.

Apart from Tsubasa, I cannot fathom why there would be anybody willing to promote themselves for that type of job. During government school first year, she became class president for a year, and then participated in the election for

the student council, during the two years following, taking her duties of the student council very seriously. I think her work record should have become legend; rumours began to circulate from the middle school at which I studied – not caring if they are good, or bad events.

If Tsubasa and I are in the same class, she would already have automatically volunteered herself. However, the one that won would be guaranteed to be her.

It would become a Hero versus Maou battle, those that are not familiar with Tsubasa will most likely vote for her; even those that are close to her, will want to vote for her for fear of letting the Maou control the whole class. However, I know very well the things that Tsubasa does to me alone.

Even so, Tsubasa is not here.

“There really are no more nominees?”

It seems as though every student turned their faces away, letting their head face down, pretend as though they do not see the teacher’s pleading eyes. From the way the teacher spoke, if no one felt the need to nominate themselves, she would talk a person into feeling like they needed to nominate themselves anyway.

Uh ... not only that, something is not right.

After all, Ryugamine has already nominated herself. Even if I know why the teacher has a wish for the Maou not to be the class representative, you can’t just throw people aside uncaringly. That is just beyond reason.

Ah, the more I think about it, the more unhappy I become.

About individual personality, it should be said that it comes to you. The result is the same as when it was with Tsubasa previously, because she had too strong a personality, there was a need to suppress her, that sort of doing really causes people to become angry. (TL Note: this will need retranslation as the chinese may have had typos here.)

“Teacher.”

Since it’s like that, I am unable to control my emotions and raised up my hand.

As a result, there is only the result of big boobed teacher quite directly letting

out a breath of air. Her originally straight shoulders fell down, both her eyebrows also relaxed. And so, from the teacher relaxing her body, the front of her slothes became loose, allowing us to sneak glances at the dip between her breasts, I tried my hardest to not look in that direction. It is as if going from an outside winter temperature into a warm room and letting out a relaxing air, the students all let out that sort of sound.

Sorry

Very regretfully, the matter is not what you want it to be.

I stand up, take a deep breath.

“Since she is the only nominee, shouldn’t it be decided then?”

Clearly, I stated that.

Everyone’s reaction was expected.

The teacher’s expression changed to that of someone about to cry, from the students came murmurs of discontent, worried noises. Amongst those are noises of people blaming me. I put on a smiling face, looking at those blaming me, I continue by asking:

“Why don’t you take up the job?”

Clearly, I truly said that out with my own mouth.

The classrooms atmosphere suddenly changed to one that frosted over with a thin layer of ice as tension filled the place. Uwah, I began to get goose bumps. It’s the truth, why would I do such a stupid thing? After all, I am only an ordinary student, yet the environment has changed to become difficult.

Whatever, there is nothing I can do about that matter.

Who told me to make my character this way.

I wish I could act more appropriately at the right times – but I am unable to do so. There is no way for me to give up on my character.

So everytime I meet that kind of situation, I become unable to stop myself, unable to recognise myself as a normal person – as though caught in a net, catching a school of fishes that is uniform like villagers, yet unable to suppress

myself from doing that kind of thing. It is our shield and armour. If we throw it away we will get hurt. However, even if I understand that point, if placed in that kind of situation ... I become unable to control myself.

Simply as a 《Villager》, I cannot bear such a simple matter.

For what reason is that? Could it possibly have been an influence from being with the Hero for so long, so we have been affected in an unknown way? After all, that girl's sense of justice is not just for fun.

I have said that which I wanted to say.

Even if I feel that I have done something stupid, I will not feel any sort of regret, nor will I regret this.

By the time I noticed, Maou – Ouka Ryugamine had already turned around, looked at me with her face turned partway. Her clean face was expressionless. I do not feel that this is a shame. No, truthfully speaking, it is regretful. But whatever, originally I had not said that because of her, I simply could not bear myself.

But –

“-Ah, I also agree.”

An aid appeared. Seeing the teacher let out a “Saitou, you also agree?” type of emotion, Saitou assuredly nodded his head.

“Throughout all of government middle school, I was constantly in the same class as Ryugamine, She became the class president during first year, the classrooms atmosphere was very calm, even compared to other classes, it was better. Umm, how should I put this? I think there was nobody brave enough to bring about the Maou trouble to the grade, nor was there anyone brave enough to oppose the Maou class president type of situation.”

“So the fact is like that.” Big breasted teacher muttered to herself.

The whole class fell into a moment of unease.

However, I can explain the reasoning behind his phrase. Because I have also had a similar situation in the past. Even if the one was the Hero, not the Maou, but I previously during middle high can say that the reason is is the same, a

continuous state of peacefulness. Saying so, there is absolutely no problem, the one sole person responsible for causing problems was Tsubasa, everyone else was very nice, and the school was extremely quiet. It can be said, it is because everyone was afraid of meeting their end in a disappearance due to the Hero, also the Hero made it seem like this was a possibility. And so, I completely understand why Saitou believes the Maou should become the class president, everyone now will also think carefully.

The teacher looks around the class.

“Ah ... That is ... Since there are no more nominees, are we to trouble Ryugamine-san with the position of the class president, ah ...”

In the end, while speaking, the teacher looked for signs of rebellion, but she already knew from early on there would be no rejections. The inside of the classroom was noiseless like the flat waves in a lake, so quiet that there wasn't even a coughing noise to break the silence, everyone silently accepted the teacher's words. Deep was that matter. Even if people think, by simply not opening their mouths, the situation will become like this.

“And so...the position of class president is to be given to Ryugamine san.”

Scattered unenthusiastic applause was heard.

The people that applauded, are those Persona similar to Ryugamine. They are the Magician, Necromance and Dragon. The other included the Monk. From rumours, it is said that our class has a higher than normal amount of Personas, maybe that might be the effect of the Maou? Not taking that into account, they all exist with relationships that are not reflective of the Hero-Maou relationship. So that world has neither enemies, nor are their allies.

“呃, that is ... The next thing is, I want to also decide on the position of vice class president ...”

Decker-sensei sneaked another look across us.

“Is there anyone who wishes ... No other volunteers?”

It is a fact. No one raises their hand up.

It only needed the teacher to sweep her eyes around the four corners of the

room for the students to move out of the line of sight. Even the persona's, there is no one willing to become the Maou's underling. I – I also don't want to. I have already decided to refuse. The reason? Going all the way, it is because of my relationship with Tsubasa. If Ryugamine is the class president, the vice president will be put into the same corner as her, that is, I would become Tsubasa's only target. I am certain to meet calamity ... I can only think of that, I become unable to control my shivering.

“Nobody...”

After saying that, the teacher repeated “I thought so”. Saying that she thought to ... certainly I don't have the right to be critical, but saying those kinds of words is too much. Aren't you the teacher? Saying those kinds of words are a bit too direct.

Continuing on, Sensei claps her hands, as though having come up with an idea.

“Seeing as it is like that, we will just have to nominate someone. Even if you are not very familiar with one and another, some of you will have gone to the same middle school as each other, right? If need be, you can use those impressions of each other to nominate someone, that is good.”

The teacher once again looked around the room, unfortunately there was nobody who would meet her eyes, students in comparison to earlier directly look away. Someone had even looked as if they had fainted, while another just openly lied down on the table. That person is Kimura.

The result is as expected – this time nobody raises their hand. That is guaranteed. If you nominate someone, that person would hold a grudge, going even further, the class may then isolate you.

Because of that. The following is what the teacher decided.

However, Sensei will most likely select from those that are Persona. If it is not so, the class president and the vice class president will be unable to communicate. If they are unable to communicate, there would be no meaning to select both a class president and a vice class president.

Deckar-sensei exaggeratedly let her shoulders droop.

Sensei does not want to be hated by the student body. But, I do not think that

will happen. Even so, the teacher is on our side, they are also a normal person. Saying that in another way, personas, even when pointed at, they would not feel embarrassed about it.

“There is nobody wishing to volunteer?”

She once again asked around, but it is expected that nobody would raise their hands. At that time, sensei let out a sigh. In the end, bringing the trouble to its final moment, a hand immediately moved, raised in front of my eyes. It is Ouka Ryugamine.

“Ryugamine san? Right! It should be like that. If you the class president are willing to pick someone, nothing could be better. Tell us who you wish to nominate, or you may simply point to them ? I see, it is decided, you can pick whoever you want. Ah, that’s right, that’s how it will be done.”

Deckar-sensei placed her hands on her chest, nodding her head several times while speaking. Every time she nods her head, her extravagant chest follows in action, such that people did not know where they should be looking ... please consider the people! All the boys are trying to lean forward and get a better view ! Even I am included !

However, atleast for me, this happiness only lasted for a very very short moment.

Ouka Ryugamine like announcing Heaven’s judgement to the Earth, slowly bring down her index finger, closing the other fingers of her raised hand into a fist, turning her upper body, all the while moving her arm, as if poking her finger in my direction.

Eh ? What? The matter just now?

“My vice class president... I hope it will be taken up by this person!”

“Ah? What?”

Inside the classroom, no matter if it was a normal person or a persona, there were no differences between the people. The situation resulted in everyone murmuring, there is a meaning in there, this can only be a miracle. But, I was the only one unable to connect the different parts of the discussion, mesmerised by the tip of Ryugamine’s shiny fingernail.

“Afterwards, it is possible for it to become very painful and bitter, but you need to put more effort and bear through it.”

Inside the staffroom. Decker-sensei sat on an armchair, using a tone as if recently having banished the spirit that had possessed her. Unfortunately sensei, your words are powerless ! [26](#)

True.

During the moment I let out a sigh, at the moment I was about to push my hair up, Decker-sensei reacted in the same way as when I had raised my hand earlier. She immediately stiffened up, the whole body and the chair backed up. Crashing into the corner of her neighbour’s desk that was piled with a mountain of books.

“Ah! Ah!”

It was too late to stop it, an avalanche occurred.

“Ah...”

“...This is not my fault.”

Anticipating what I’d say, Decker-sensei stared at me in the eye, however, immediately let out a dismayful sigh. The two drooping eyebrows looked as though they were about to fall off.

“I understand...unfortunately, don’t you feel that the one who is in the wrong is Nakamura-sensei? I mean, you saw it yourself.”

Sensei pointed at the table in a teary eyed manner.

“Nakamura-Sensei’s table should only reach here. Unfortunately, his materials have crossed over the boundary, no matter what I say to him, he will not mend his ways ! It has already piled to such a height ... It should have already fallen over, don’t you agree ? Don’t you think that even if I hadn’t knocked it, that pile of material would have already fallen over by itself ? ”

“Umm ... I guess?”

“Am I right?!”

Decker-Sensei’s face lit up as though she just received a million supporters.

Sorry, Sensei. I feel that it is an invasion of area, but, even if I talk to Nakamura-sensei, nothing would change. What can the view of a student within the system do.

The main point is not like that.

“Teacher, I cannot do it.”

I cut straight to the topic. Decker-sensei let out a surprised expression, she understood what I was talking about without asking. Letting out a sigh, she murmured “You’re right”.

“I don’t know why Ryugamine pointed to me, but I don’t think I’m qualified. Do we not see each other on the same level?”

Letting out a groan in disagreement, sensei let up as if she had thought of something, then replied,

“Unfortunately, Satou-san, haven’t you already been recognised by the Hero Tsubasa Hikarigaoka-san? the fact that she calls you by your name has become a little topic within the staffroom, you know?”

Who made this known!

“T...That’s not wrong, but she and I are childhood friends, I was associated with her before her sense of wanting justice developed ... Ryugamine is not the same.”

“Umm ... what we can say is, we want you to think of some idea, however – “

Please carefully think it over!

“But, looking at the matter from the school’s viewpoint, your association with that person is desirable, therefore I feel that leaving this type of matter and arranging for you to take up the position is the right action to take.”

“What?”

“Look. The Hero and the Maou are opposite existences, but by simply folding it up neatly inbetween, the positions of the two will become similar, is that not so? So it can be said, if you, the one who has followed the Hero for a long time, supports Ryugamine-san, the school won’t need to worry. ”

“What is that supposed to mean?!”

“I-it isn’t me. The lifestyle guidance teachers like the deputy principal said so and because I haven’t been here long, my position is weak and so I can’t oppose this...”

I wouldn’t know about these things! I only enrolled in this school during spring!

“The situation is just like that, I’m pleading with you!”

Decker-sensei was bowing her head as if praying until I stopped her with my hand. This was considerably awkward. All the other teachers were watching!

“Ah ~ that’s enough!”

I can’t stand this! At the sound of my voice, the teacher raised her head. I could see a look of relief and pleasure across her face.

“...Sensei.”

“Mm, what’s the matter!”

“I object!”

Sensei’s face looked as though it was beaten up by an unseen hand. So, it is impossible to concede. The Hero is already enough to give me a headache, how could I also take care of one Maou!

Anyways, in the opposite view, that thing had no meaning at all.

It is guaranteed that.

I didn’t want the position and asked who would want it, however, nobody else wanted it either. If I decline the position, nobody else would want it either.

In the end, it was decided that Ryugamine Ouko would be class president, and that I would be vice president. Other committee members were decided in their own ways.

“What is the meaning of this?!”

Finally, I mean. During the next lunch break, Tsubasa, unnaturally ignoring Kimura and Saito, stared at me coldly.

“Have you fallen as low as to become the Maou’s underling?!”

I didn't really become anything like that, nor am I feeling down. So, who did you hear this from? As usual, she's the first to find out.

"...There's nothing I could do. Ryugamine was selected, and I was nominated by her. None of the other nominees were present either..."

When I looked at Kimura and Saito, both of them looked away.

"There was nothing I could do, right?"

"How about it?"

Tsubasa folded her arms across her chest and snorted.^{[27](#)}

"What?"

"You have become the Maou's subordinate, haven't you? You can't do anything? Ha! Honestly, it isn't that you can't do anything, it's that you don't want to! So that is your determination! Surely this is also part of the plan for humanity's annihilation!"

"You are talking about the matter of class president?"

When I asked, she had a huge frown across her face.

"No, I'm talking about you becoming vice class president! Do you understand?"

Tsubasa pointed her finger at the tip of my nose.

"The Maou could annihilate humanity at any time. It is because she is a demon."

"It can't be..."

I almost laughed, but Tsubasa's finger, like a sword, didn't allow it to come out.

"It's true! It's a similar case to the sword on my back. It's...characteristic of the Maou!"

1. The harass used here is meant to mean slightly sexually like peeking into change rooms and a slap on the butt sort of harassment. ↵
2. Junior high, equivalent to years 7 – 9. ↵
3. The Chinese use of body (身材) is usually used to mean BWH, but this is a guy so. -_- ↵
4. could also mean: the male gender needs to be more special than a majority of the girls. due to poor grammar and how you read the sentence ↵
5. Human race: 人類 – じんるい – jinrui ↵
6. Relatives: 親類 – しんるい – shinrui ↵
7. Japanese Chin as Japanese don't have any Pekingese breed: 狆類 -ちんるい – chinrui ↵
8. Check jap TLC as this maybe referring to Japanese Chin and therefore it might be pekingese. Pekingese and pugs look very different: [Pekingese vs Pug](#) and also [Pekingese vs Japanese Chin](#) ↵
9. This is a guess from what I could find in jap raw wait for TLC to translate the jap for a better name ↵
10. The word impressive replaces the chinese words 雄偉 which is usually a description that usually refers to a mans 6 pack or masculine ↵
11. This may be san not student ↵
12. 櫻子 – さくらこ – sakurako ↵
13. おうこ – ouko, possible jap is 王子 meaning prince, however prince is normally written as おうじ but the second kanji, 子, can be read as こ ↵
14. Up: うえ – Ue ↵
15. Japanese equivalent of an umm ↵
16. Can be replaced with 'So unlucky' ↵
17. Exact translation is Children's Story World ↵
18. can mean heart beat or character's thoughts ↵
19. I think they mean well done a a well cooked steak is described as well done and we are talking about a person, not a slice of meat ↵
20. I think it is meant to be even with clothes on, but this is what it says. ↵
21. Probably onigiri: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Onigiri> ↵
22. Stupid egg, or possibly the chinese for baka ↵
23. Chinese word used means healthy, but it doesn't make sens in the context given ↵

- 24. Chinese text use non playboy personality ↩
- 25. Text uses technique but in rpg terms ability might be better or skill ↩
- 26. Instead of powerless chinese use the phrase for meaningless ↩
- 27. At me ↩

Chapter 2

Chapter 2

Unfortunately, from then on, the Maou has not begun any activities. On a certain day, however, I saw her buying bread from the canteen.

Simply looking at her, it was impossible to tell that she was thinking of plans to eliminate mankind.

This was my line of thought. Since I woke up late this morning, I didn't make a bento, so I decided to buy lunch from the bread store. However, I really did not want to buy Carbohydrate X 3 bread. So I decided to buy the secure chicken sandwich and boxed coffee.

Is that Ryuugamine? What is the Maou planning to eat?

I accidentally noticed Ryuugamine after lining up. Only seeing her turning around after having bought a ham and egg with cabbage salad sandwich as well as an orange juice.

Ah. This is surprisingly ordinary.

But considering it carefully, that is guaranteed. Because that store only sells ordinary breads. It is not as though they sold human flesh hamburgers or blood, there would be huge problems if that happened.

Ryuugamine finished her purchase and directly left the crowd, unfortunately, her surroundings are very ordinary.

Even if I did not know she was a Maou, Ryuugamine Ouka's kawaii appearance was already eye catching. Even if she is not so scary to bring those around her down, she is still able to make everyone's eyes follow her.

Unfortunately, she has eyes that look at others in an uncaring manner, her back held straight, parting the crowds with her beauty.(bravery???) The group contained not few students simply parted out of her way, doing so without knowing the exact reason. I think, the reason behind this is the fact that she is the Maou. The Maou and us are not the same.

I was stuck on the side with the majority, putting my life on the line trying to push them away, chasing the back of Ryuugamine. At the slightest mistake, my bread would be squished flat. It was not easy escaping the crowd of people, I take a moment to fixed up my messed up uniform, before resuming my search of Ryuugamine's shadow.

Found it.

She walked in the direction opposite the class rooms.

It can't be true that she eats her lunch in the toilets?

... So mysterious.

If she wants to be in solitude, I should not stop her ... Unfortunately, the problem is the matter about her eating in the toilet. Looking on as a bystander, it is guaranteed to think that she was getting bullied and isolated by the class, I thought.

That is not wonderful.

Allowing others to think such a matter happened in my class, that is not good.

If everyone believes that we are purposefully bullying Personas, the classes reputation would take a slide, it will further influence the evaluation when we graduate from school.

So, as the new 《vice》 class representative, I can't just sit down and do nothing!

...Ah, I will just have to do that. I want to make it clear first, this is absolutely not because I have an interest in this. That is the truth!

It is decided to do just that.

In the classroom, Kimura and Saitou are waiting for me, but if I take too long returning, they should automatically start eating without me. Even though we have only been in the same class for half a month, I want to avoid the predicament of eating along in the toilet, I will eat lunch with the one that sits quite close to me. Our friendship is only at that level, atleast it is that way currently.

I keep a little distance as I follow Ryuugamine.

Because she is so small, in a single moment, she becomes mixed in with the other students, unable to be seen. Unluckily, her back disappears just at the perfect moment, such that I am unable to follow her. What should I do ... I couldn't have lost her now. A feeling arose, It was as though my eyes were attracted to her. Her back did not have a label, yet I was still able to find her.

But, where is she going? That side is the old school building! If you are looking for a toilet, the new school building clearly contains a few. That's right. I feel that there is no impossibility, but could it possibly be that she doesn't want to meet one of us?

The old school building and new school building are completely different.

The history of the two sides of the school are very different, the hundred year old stone architecture has changed a bit, so much so that parts of it are still being used. The everyday class rooms that we currently used were just built in these last few years, So it feels very comfortable and bright. There are also some special classrooms within the old school building that lack windows, and so the feeling is very dark.

Ryuugamine passed through the corridor, heading towards the old school building.

I stopped moving just at the edge of the new school building.

What am I supposed to do next?

Truthfully speaking, I really don't like the old school building. In fact it is also said that it contains ghosts. I certainly am not afraid of ghosts, but there is a furry feeling to it. Ryuugamine would not listen to rumours. It could also be said, because she is the Maou, there is a chance that she will not worry about it? But, thinking about it, should could put those guys under her control, that is as it should be –

Uwah!

...I thought my heart would stop!

Ryuugamine decided to take a turn at the carved columns, in that single moment, it seems as though she saw me ... or was I thinking too much? I was standing just a blink outside of her line of sight – that was all I did. That should

not be wrong. Roughly ...

...

...Ah!

That is the truth!

Having arrived this far, how can I just drop my head and give up! Certainly the situation has changed to become like that, in an instant, I knew I had to clear it up by asking her! Just like that! I will do it like that from the beginning! It was not easy being in a separate class to Tsubasa. I can finally meet new people, you could say that those Personas are just playing me round in circles, destroying my school life – My youth of Spring!

Having made a decision to chase, I enter the corridor. I originally thought to call out to her, but if she just ran away, that would make the situation more troublesome. So I decided to face it head on.

I jump over fallen concrete blocks, entering the old school building.

Taking a step inside, the air inside could clearly be felt to be different.

It was not my first time here. Previously, I had come here for class, using the classrooms over here several times. The interior's air was not fresh, but smelt moldy. This was not normal and made me feel fear. The arch roofing, and the uninstalled empty window frames, resulted in the area looking like ruins.

Normally, I would come with the other students of the class, and so I did not feel that the inside would be so cool, you could even say that the inside was quite cold. The icy chill from the rocks, coming from the indoor floor, managed to penetrate from the bottom of the shoe to the feet, it felt as though I was about to catch a cold from my feet.

I turn and find that Ryuugamine has disappeared – actually, it was just that after I turned the corner, I was unable to see her, a robust column blocked the corner.

“-What are you doing!”

“Uwah!”

Ryuugamine Ouko noted the bread that was wrapped up, in front of my face.

I didn't turn the corner too quickly, but suddenly, my eyes nearly crashed with her. In a rush, I turned. As a result, I crashed onto the ground floor. I think I rolled backward twice. After crashing into the corridor's wall, I finally stopped rolling.

Even though my body is numb and in pain, none of the pain felt debilitation. Looking at it, I do not think I broke any bones, nor will there be a scratch.

But-

"Ah..."

The bag that held the bread had been squashed. Probably around the time I was rolling backward, I accidentally crushed it. Even if I don't open the bag, I know the contents will be tragic. It was as if it had been rolled by a rolling pin, people would not want to open it. The thing that leaked out of it, that is my coffee!

"Ayah."

I heard the sound of fear, lifting my head, I see Ryugamine Ouko with her eyes wide open looking down at me.¹ She protectively holds onto the bag of bread, opening her legs, tilting her neck slightly to look down, forcing me to praise her as I would praise an idol in a photograph.

"You fell ... Are you hurt?"

While speaking, Ryugamine combed her long black hair with her hands, flowing like a torrent from behind her ear down her back. Her pitch-black black hair was as if it was some kind of ink, as compared to her lily white fingers which were so beautiful, they would cause others to tremble. After rolling up her hair, she decided to let it recover to its original position. Like that, she continued to roll it, as if waiting for something to happen, she continued to repeat.

Ah! She is waiting for my reply!? Is it like that!?

It was as if I was considering waiting for my reply, She once again rolled her hair.

"Eh! That's! Should!"

Waah! I am too stupid! What kind of reply was that! It was as clumsy as a guy

speaking to a girl for the first time! What should I do, such a failure!

“That’s.”

The me that is so scared that I was unable to react is stupid, Ryuugamine showed a face that was indifferent to the suffering within myself, stepping towards me. Following that, without thinking it over, she squatted down in front of me.

U, Uh...

See it – I can see it! I can’t see something that should not be seen! It is a water blue stripe pattern!² She did not roughly spread her legs, her legs were held quite straight. However if it is like that, spreading open the short uniform skirt by squatting down, from my position, I can see it!

“What’s with you?”

There is no need to ask about a certain matter! You really don’t understand? Or is it that, you don’t care? After looking at something so scary – it matters to me! I care about it!

No...No way. I drag my painful body to stand. Even if she continues to not care, allowing me to look, it is left to me to take action! It is hard to call it an accident, but I am not so shameless as to not be unaffected when looking at a young girl’s underwear.

Ryuugamine looked up at me, simply imitating the way in which I stood up. Continuing on, she slightly tilted her head, not knowing when she pointed up with her finger. Her finger reached over, poking at the crumpled paper bag in front of my chest. The bag was certainly crumpled, letting out shasha sounds.

Scared ... Scared me to death ...

I certainly don’t think I showed my emotions, but truthfully in my heart, I was half scared to death. I thought my body would scrape off. Even though I know that within this world, Ryuugamine is just an ordinary human, that type of event is impossible, but I still am confronted with fear.

“It’s crushed.”

“Eh?”

Are ... Are you saying something about my dignity? – No, That's wrong. How can it be. It's the bag. The thing she is pointing to is the bag.



“That’s ... That’s right.”

She shifts her finger.

“The contents of the bag have become so appalling that it is unrecognisable. It would be hard to identify what it is, even if it is a waste, I don’t think I have the appetite for it.

I mechanically nod my head.

I also think that.

When I had calmed down, Finally feeling the effects of an empty stomach, my feelings of discontent rose up. Ah, getting to the point, I have no lunch to eat today. If it had been a bento, even if the rice and side dishes had been dropped, the contents would not be squished like the way they are now. Next time I am following someone, make sure it is a day I bring a bento. I learnt that today. [3](#)

Just when I was contemplating-

“Nothing can be done.”

Ryuugamine Ouko slightly turned her back, placing both hands that were held as fists at her waist.

Nothing can be done? What does that mean?

“Even if I don’t know who you are, but it is apparent that both you and I go to the same school, this must be a type of fate. I will split my lunch with you.”

Eh...?

Split for me to eat...? Lunch – The main point is not that!

Are you messing with me! Oi, Ryuugamine Ouko! I am the Vice Class President! I sit right behind you! Also, aren’t you the one that pointed me out to become the Vice Class President!? Isn’t that do? You really cannot recognize me for who I am?

However, I realized what I had just heard, I knew she was a person like that already! Unfortunate!

...If I had seen it with my own eyes, I would feel extremely sad...

I am really sad!

After Ryuugamine Ouko talked about splitting her lunch with me, she took me to a place that was not the toilet.

Too good.

In such a narrow gap, I followed in a single file, this kind of feeling leaves me restless. However, at that moment, she was unable to recognize who I am, I feel as though she was bullying me. This kind of situation is embarrassing.

In the end, she should already understand that I am a student in the same class as her.

“Vice Class President...Vice Class President...”

After she mutters the phrase a few time. She is starting to understand the main point. However, She is still unable to come up with my name.

The place that Ryuugamine Ouka took me to, is a place of forests at the bottom of the stairs. The inside was piled up with what looked like sporting equipment and equipment that would be used for major cleaning purposes. It is a lot better than a toilet, but eating inside the darkness and among the dusty cloths, is way too miserable.

While I was thinking-

“Heyah.”⁴

Ryuugamine skipped over the table, avoiding the pile of equipment and moving ahead, afterwards, it became hard to see her figure. Certainly, looking from it externally, it doesn't seem like that, but is there really a path through there? During the moment that I was indecisive, Ryuugamine suddenly popped her head out from behind the equipment.

“What is it? Come over here.”

What is on the other side of the equipment? Taking a peek, the area behind it is deep, but from my perspective, it is too narrow.

“Come.”

For a reason I cannot fathom, Ryuugamine extends an invitation with her

hand.

I could not immediately muster a response to the hand.

“It will not be scary.”

I am not afraid! Saying again, I am not hesitant because she is the Maou, but because the one that extended the hand towards me is a girl. According to my memory, I have only ever held hands with a girl during school activities. I can't help but be worried about whether or not I have sweaty hands...That is why I would shrink back.

In fact, I think when Ryuugamine said “not scary”, the topic is not herself.

There is a tunnel.

Yet looking at my body's condition, I do not know whether or not I can pass through. Ryuugamine's stature is both thin and small, her whole body does not have much bulk to her, even if it is a narrow gap, she should easily be able to pass through, but it is I who cannot pass. If we are lined up next to each other, my body can be seen as more robust.

How should I react? Even if she is the Maou, this is not a school activity, nor are we in a relationship, she continued to extend her hand towards me, this kind of chance doesn't come everyday.

...Need to take the hand?

Stop! Wait a moment! Eh...Before I went to the canteen, I went to the toilet, I should have washed my hands? Yes, I have washed them, I check that I have washed them. Mm, and then-

“Truly.”

Uwah! She grabbed my hand! How can you not even consider for a moment, class president! For better or worse, I am a male student!

...But as it goes.

That's right, I forgot. She is uncaring, as if we are just a curious puppy running under her skirt.

“Over this side.”

I was pulled by her over the table.

...Such and ordinary hand.

That's right, a really ordinary hand. Even so, Ryuugamine only looks at me as though I was a dog, and then says to me, that is the hand of a female student. My experience with holding the hands of females is lacking, there is no way of taking her hand and comparing it with other girls, but it should be said – the feeling is comfortable. Even if it is expected, but apart from the feeling from touching, whether it be the level of softness or the temperature. The hand that is being held feels very different from that of another boy's hand.

Uwah! I began to get nervous again. No need to think about what I have and what I don't have!

“That's right ... Vice Class President-san. Why are you even here?”

“What!?”

My heart nearly jumped out of my mouth.

“Apart from taking class, students would not come to this side of the school building, right?”

Screwed ... Screwed up.

My heart beat furiously non-stop. Calm down! Clam down – Uwah, the feeling has left even my body temperature to rise! This is bad, this is bad ... I feel as if my hands are about to start sweating! Need: Need to be truthful? What should I do? I need to relax? Un ... Unfortunately, needing me to acknowledge that I followed her-

“That's right ...”

Ryuugamine continued with her head raised up:

“During Middle school, someone raised the rumour that I alone ate lunch in the toilet, don't tell me, you-“⁵

Ahh! I have been seen through! Ryuugamine put more strength into her hands – I had that kind of feeling! I think I won't be able to escape her!

I cannot stand this!

“So ... Sorry!”

Without me noticing, I had already apologised to her. It's the truth, the words had already broken free from my mouth. It could have been that my life was on the line, or it could be that I lack perseverance, or maybe it is just a reaction from my central nervous system. It should be that.

“Because ... I really ...”

Ryuugamine turned her head, her hair spreading open like an umbrella, lightly swiping the hand that she was grabbing. That comfortable feeling, caused me to shiver.

“Your meaning is ... You're worried about me?”

Is ... Is it like that?

Listening to it clearly, once can possibly draw that kind of conclusion. But if need be, I should nod my head in reply. That would mean, towards the matter of me following her, it would be suspecting that I had done something evil even though I acted sincerely? I ask within my heart whether there is a possible reply. After a while, no clear answer appeared, among all the uncertainty, there was no stable answer.

Suddenly, I seemed to catch a glimpse as Ryuugamine's lips being pulled into a smile.

However, that should just be me seeing things. And then, without waiting for affirmation, she once again turned her body, pulling on my hand once again.

I was pulled along by her, scraping along the equipment with my belly on one side and my back on the other, heading into the depths, wondering what that was about. Not caring about it, I think the previous topic can be put to rest. That's the way it is, that has saved my life.

After passing through the piled up equipment, we came to a space that was not that dissimilar to the size of a toilet, on one wall was a door.

Because it had been blocked off by the equipment, it would have been impossible to see the door which is much smaller than the normal doors, roughly half the size of a normal door. Ryuugamine let go of my hand. Such a shame ...

How can I think like that! I am not like a little kid who has lost his way!

Ryuugamine didn't even display half the sadness I felt, putting out her hand to turn the door. The door may have been crooked, the hinges let out a poor noise.

Even if it is like that, the doorways reveal luminous sunlight.

As though it was a door to the Secondary World.

However, the feeling is not hated. Even if it is a Secondary World, it contains a good feeling like Heaven – However, that cannot be the case.

Because I already said it earlier, in the future, Persona will become the real characters such as the Maou and the Hero, it is guaranteed that they will act in the manner dictated by the system set up by the government. Certainly, I don't know how they enter that world, but I certainly don't think this place is an entrance or an exit to the Secondary World.

Ryuugamine turned through the door quite quickly, I also followed along. In a moment, the bright light caused my eyes to blur, but I quickly recovered.

... Ah, so there is this kind of place within the old school building.

Inside was a courtyard that was surrounded by four stone walls. Inside the courtyard, there resided a bench, it looked as though it was the same material as the stone walls. Apart from a scrawny tree, there was a large tree growing along the walls, the almost fallen in roof boards brought in natural lighting, the place was so illuminating that it was eye dazzling.

"Where is this place?"

"This is the place where I regularly eat lunch. I really like this place. During middle school, I had this place as my own heaven on earth, I would usually eat my lunch alone. I am really good at searching for these kinds of place."

Finishing off, Ryuugamine walked towards the bench, taking a handkerchief from her pocket, wiped off the dust. It was truly classy. It was not just her own seat, she also cleaned the divider in the seat.

"Sit."

Continuing to tell me to sit.

“Thank...Thank you...”

I bow my heads towards her while politely apologising, and then in an ambiguous voice, stated “Sorry for the inconvenience”. Sitting down next to her.

Uwah, knocked the shoulders!

The bench was not very spacious, two people sitting side by side resulted in the feeling of being squished. Whenever she moves, her narrow shoulders would push against me.

So...So anxious...It is impossible to image. When normally on the electric car with a girl sitting next to me, I would not feel anything, why am I feeling so anxious right now?

“Completely destroyed right?”

“What? Ah...”

Understanding that she is referring to the bread bought at the canteen, I opened the squished bag.

Wah...Nothing of the chicken sandwich is as it once was. It might have been possible to eat if it was simply squished, unfortunately the bread was not the only thing squashed, the boxed coffee is also the same. The bag is amazing. Clearly the bread is soaking wet and has already changed colours, however, not even one drop of coffee has leaked out of the bag.

“There’s no way to eat it right?”

“Looks like it.”

“I think that is so.”

Ryuugamine took the ham, egg with cabbage salad sandwich and orange juice from her bag, placing it on the napkin that was laid out on her thigh, before deftly taking the sandwich out of it’s wrapping. Her actions in splitting the sandwich in half was quite smooth-

“For you.”

Passing half of it to me.

Are you sure about this? Taking the assured half a sandwich, the proportions

leave half behind. There is very little, are you able to last until the end of school?

Yet, during my moment of indecisiveness, Ryuugamine passed my part of the sandwich to me. At this point in time, I was about to refuse it out of embarrassment.

If so, I'll take it.

I take the bread, looking at Ryuugamine. Seeing the faint smile on her face, I become wary in my heart, forcing myself to break her gaze. I don't think my action was natural, I wolfed down the sandwich.

...Ehh, really tasty.

The sour taste of the cabbage salad and the sweet taste of the egg match really well. The amount of thin slices of ham was also quite generous, very unlike a canteen lunch. Even if it was a sandwich given to me by someone else, the amount is so little that even if it wasn't finished in one mouthful, two bites would finish it off. The amount is simply not enough to fill the gaps of my teeth. Even so, however, I really want a drink. For some reason, the sandwich's bread is stuck to the top of my mouth.

"-For you."

Ryuugamine passed the box of juice towards me.

"What?"

"Bread is stuck to your mouth, right? So, there is no problem if you drink a bit, but don't drink it all!"

"Un...Unfortunately..."

I look at the straw sticking out of the juice box.

It's wet.

It can be said – the box of juice that she has already drank from. Or else, she told me not to drink it all, the meaning is that after I finish drinking, she plans to also take another drink? No...No way! No way no way! That is too unreasonable! We are not in such a relationship!

“You don’t want a drink?”

“I want!”

Finished! I suddenly bit the straw! I...I accidentally drank it all...Maybe doing that would anger her...

A bit, I only need to drink a tiny bit and that should be enough.

I let out a sound! Too...Too embarrassing! The back of my neck heated up! That’s it, that’s enough! All the bread has been consumed, there should be no problem!

I quickly relaxed my mouth, looking at the straw. Too good...There are no bread crumbs stuck to it. Extremely clean – Uwah! Ryuugamine-san, you are too lacking in consideration! That is the straw that I just used!? How brave are you-

...Ah, Right...

I forgot.

Those Persona’s just don’t care. How should I put this – it is all because she is too ordinary, so I have accidentally forgotten. Actually, Tsubasa is also the same, if she didn’t have that sword, she would just be a selfish and troublesome girl.

Following the comparison, Ryuugamine is certainly called the Maou, but apart from the words “I hate humanity” when we first met, she has not done any bad things. Since becoming the Class President, she has diligently completed all the tasks handed to her by the teacher. Leaving me the Vice Class President with nothing left to do.

Why is that so? So I have been becoming in-existent? Is it possible that, until a moment ago, she has forgotten about the existence of the Vice Class President? Even the fact that she had pointed me out has been wiped clean?

...In conclusion, I think it is that.

“Fu~”

A sudden chirp sound, Ryugamine moved her lips away from the straw. She slightly lifts her head up, the head full of black hair moves from her shoulders to her back.

The profile of her face was really eye drawing, as if it was the same as the image of an idol from a magazine cover. Under the soft sunlight, her skin colour was white. Thinking carefully, I should count myself as really lucky?

“...Ahh, I really want to exterminate mankind...”

“Puu!”

It was the first time that I had known since I was born, even if I did not have anything in my mouth, I would still have spat out over that statement about humankind.

That’s right! She truly is a Maou!

However, Ryuugamine, using her ordinary – no, that’s not right, rather her extraordinary cute face to turn a face me, letting a smile filled with malicious intent.

“Is the canteen always this crowded?”

“What?’

I was as surprised as a person roused from their sleep.

“Ah...That’s right...”

Awful, my heart beat rapidly.

Wait a moment, she is talking about the canteen?

I don’t always go there everyday, so there was no way of breaking the conversation, but following Kimura’s words, it is the same as a war-zone. The struggle for bread is actually quite fierce, adding on to that with the sense of hunger, arguments can often breakout.

“Eh...This is your first time there?”

I clearly did not have that kind of intent, yet my words seemed to have had a probing meaning.

Ryuugamine gave a sense of nodding her head.

This is bad, she really is cute. I begin to feel as if I had simply misheard her phrase about mankind.

“I normally make my own bentos. However, I felt that I should understand more, so today I decided to challenge myself and visit the canteen to buy bread.”

She tightened her hand into a fist, it seems as though she is proud of herself!

“I was extremely scared. Everyone’s eyes looked as though they had not eaten for several days, I was sucked in by the atmosphere. Even when another person, started an argument over who had picked up the bread first, that was simply dangerous.

“Because everyone has a big appetite.”

I feel as though half a sandwich is not enough.

“You are not full?”

She continued to ask a question about my feelings, resulting in me being speechless for a moment. Eh...How should I reply? Replying with a “That’s right” would be too shameless. Yet, a reply of “It’s enough” would mean lying to her and lying is not right.

“...That’s, there is something to it.”

In the end, I ambiguously gave a reply that did not seem like a reply at all.

What is with this situation? She simply opened her mouth to ask some questions? Anyway, what is her reasoning?

“But, Eating too much is not good, isn’t that so?”

She opened her mouth asking to confirm with me.

“That is not wrong...Recently, among the students at middle school younger than us, some of them are beginning to develop lifestyle issues. After all, there are people that are already developing this sickness, even televisions are saying that an unstable eating and drinking habits are the main cause of the disease. So I think eating too much becomes a really big issue.”

“That’s right.”

Ryuugamine nods her head in understanding.

Her reaction, caused me to have a momentary feeling of discord, but I was unable to pinpoint the exact reason.

“Ah-”

The bell forecasting the end of lunch break sounded.

Ryuugamine Ouko stood up, folding up the handkerchief laid out on her thigh and returning it to her pocket. I stared at her actions, unable to turn away.

Continuing on, as if it was absolutely guaranteed, she stretched out her hand, as if saying “I will pull you up”.

What is that about?

Even if she doesn’t pull me, I can stand up by myself. Unfortunately, if I stand up myself, it would be a waste of her goodwill, but I am unable to understand what could Ryuugamine want? When I simply think about it, there was no way for me to refuse her.

She cannot have any other meaning – It should be like that. I knew from early on that it was like that, yet within my mind, there was a noise telling me that it might not be like that. I did not want to be stared at by the Maou, I also was afraid that I would be executed for impertinence without her considering it. I turn it over in my brain, again and again, finally coming up with a conclusion.

And then, within the beautiful courtyard where the resounding of the bell faded, holding onto the outstretched hand of Ryuugamine, holding onto the soft hand, there was a sudden chill in it.

Within the silhouette, Ryuugamine Ouko’s face displayed a certain emotion – I was unable to see it.

“Hey, Satou! Are you even listening?”

A few days later.

When I first entered the classroom at school, I was immediately pulled aside by Kimura. It was the first time that I had seen those two in such an excited state. Even if we have only known each other for a month, having not seen such a thing before is expected, but I really admire the fact that he is able to muster such an expression so early in the morning.

“What, what?”

Saitou came over. It was as if his face had written on it “What are you guys talking about that has you so excited?”.

“It is a student restaurant, it is a student restaurant!”

Kimura was spouting air out of his nose. As if he was from a manga, you are too happy. Even saying so, a student restaurant?

“Our school has that kind of eatery?”

Saitou immediately replied.

“Nonono! You guys are wrong!”

Those kinds of words piss me off.

“That is already yesterday’s news! So right now, as if it was from the Stone Ages which is far past, civilisation has finally reached high school!”

The era has changed so quickly, jumping from the Stone Age to the Meiji Period of Japan. What kind of change happened.

“Look!”

Kimura dumped an advertising flyer onto my table.

On the flyer was written “Student Restaurant Opening”, in fact the date is set for today. The opening date is really abrupt, clearly there was no sign of such a flyer yesterday.

“Opening like a cafe style?”

Saitou’s face was full of confusion. The location is ... The car park? Looking at it, It should be some kind of stall. If it is like so, it is quite possible to open upon within a day. You simply need to bring in a car with a built in kitchen, then prepare some tables and chairs for people to sit on.

“Whatever, I will go and have a look!”

Kimura excitedly pointed at the poster. I put my hands together in front of me, facing him in apology.

“My apologies, I brought my own bento.”

As luck would have it, I woke up early to make my bento. Certainly I feel

interested in a cafe run as a student restaurant, but I simply cannot just throw my lunch away. Also, the surrounding temperature is quite high.

“That so. Saitou, what about you?”

“Please excuse me, I also brought my own bento.”

“So suddenly, you guys bring your own bento, where should we go to eat? Because I don’t want to sit with people that I don’t know, hogging all the seats by myself is quite embarrassing. Even if it is a bento, eating in there should be no problem, is that not so?”

“Ah...”

The image of the courtyard floated to the top of my brain.

I originally planned to eat lunch at that place. The air was really fresh there, in fact I feel that eating a bento I made with my own hands will be a lot better compared to eating the bread that I bought previously, hence I planned to go there.

However, giving up on that.

I am not really strong characteristically, I am easily influenced by invitations from others and become unable to refuse them. Facing other ordinary villagers, the lifestyle of working alongside other high school students of the same class is very important.

There was the possibility of being labelled as hard to get along with, being pushed aside by friends and then becoming unable to rejoin that group.

On that matter – I don’t find it hard to reconcile with.

“Okay, I understand.”

Brushing off the regret felt at leaving the courtyard, I smile in reply. Saitou also replies in a similar manner. Nothing can be done, this is simply the normal person’s way of life.

Even leaving the classroom immediately after the bell rang, the parking lot was already crowded with people.

“I’ll go there first!”

Finishing up, Kimura rushed out. If he does not go out to get a spot early, at the end, he will have to wait for a long time and so become unable to find a seat and have to give up.

When Saitou and I arrived, we were able to see Kimura lining up in the queue right in front of the stall.

However, that is not possible. Not only does it sell the staple curry and noodles, but there are also Italian and French style cuisine? However there are no Japanese style meals. Also, those that are not preferential about their food can only say that there really is a large variety to choose from. Not right, beef on rice should be considered a Japanese style food. Oh heaven, hamburgers are guaranteed, there are also flour based foods, even crepes are sold.

“I shouldn’t even choose a bento.”

Saitou spoke with a face full of regret, while I fully agree with his words. Looking at the situation, from today onwards, it seems the canteen may be put to retirement. Not limited to students, even the teachers are there. Not only that, you can also see a few Persona scattered around. They are really cool, there is also a person carrying a gas mask included. That is really mysterious. What kind of profession is that person going to become?

Speaking of which, Ryuugamine didn’t come to school today. The teacher did not specify a reason for her not coming to school, so I can only presume that she has the flu or some other illness.

“Waited long enough.”

Upon Kimura’s return, he placed the tray of food onto the table. After Saitou and I look at it, we both let out “Wahh” noises. What is with those proportions? Port cutlet curry rice with beef on top of rice and takoyaki! Then on the side there is also a miniature proportion of pork bone ramen?”

“Really extreme right?”

Kimura looked on snugly.

“What is extreme is your stomach...”

After the shocked me finished speaking, Kimura sat down with a laugh,

continuing on with his surprising words:

“This is only 300 yen!”⁶

“True or false?”

“Absolutely true.”⁷ I heard it is because of the new opening, hence the special discount. Too much chatter *More action*”

Kimura lifted up the soup spoon and wolfed down the food. He scooped the curry into his mouth, gulped down the pork bone ramen soup, swallowing as if he was unable to stop eating.

Saitou and I glance at each other, opening up our own lunches. The content that I had today was green onion and mushroom leftovers fried in tempura as a pattie, covered over in a thick sauce on top of rice, looking at it today, it seems quite poor.

Unfortunate!

Tomorrow I want to eat at the Student Restaurant!

“There is really something weird going on!”

It happened on the day after.⁸

“...During class time, you randomly enter a classroom and make statements that don't make sense.”

I am unable to put up with the annoyance any further and look up at the one who is leaning on the table, the Tsubasa who is looking down on me. Going with what I was saying, it is the third period and classes are still ongoing.”

“What is it about?”

“How can you simply call it what is this about! As you can see, it is in the middle of class! Shouldn't your class also be having lessons? How can you simply enter another person's classrooms without any care!”

“Ha!”

Tsubasa placed her hands on her waist, greatly pushing out her chest.

“So it is simply a small matter!”

It may be so for you, but for me this is no small matter!

Certainly I have a loathing expression on my face, but Tsubasa does not seem to understand the slightest. She pulled aside today’s absent Ryuugamine’s seat, facing the seat’s back, sitting in order to look at me.

It is like that.

It is because this girl is like that that it causes people to hurt their heads dealing with her.

I originally feel that Ryuugamine is so nice that she cannot possibly be the Maou, yet in this recent period, Tsubasa has begun to calm, so I have begun to relax. But – I am too naive.

Regardless of whether it was coincidental that the responsible teacher of the lesson was Deckar-Sensei, everyone was letting out a helpless expression. Everyone already knew that from the moment the girl carrying a big sword on her back rushed into the classroom, it was time to give up. They all look at me in a meaningful way, wanting me to quickly calm her down.

Truthfully, I understand.

“...So, what did you say was suspicious?”

I show interest in her words, Tsubasa immediately leans over the back of the chair, leaning all the way onto the desk. Her chest was so full that it flows towards me. Too close. I slowly slide back a bit, but I do not move so quickly that she would be able to notice.

“Do you even need to ask, it is certainly the newly opened cafe! Have you been there?”

“Yes.”

Certainly I have not eaten there before, but thinking back about it, I started salivating. I did not prepare a bento this morning and for breakfast, I ate less than usual. This is because I do not have the same appetite as Kimura.

“What is so suspicious about it. That store is quite good, cheap and large proportions, suitable for students.”

“Definitely wrong, that store is really not normal.”

“So I am asking you what is so weird about it. Please explain it in a clearer manner.”

“Nothing can be done about it.”

Tsubasa let out a small sigh before looking all over the place.

This person...is definitely gonna cause trouble, looking all over the place and only caring about the light just now, what is the meaning behind all this! What are you faking just now!? You just want to make something happen right?

Tsubasa once again faced me.

“You hear? The manager in charge of the cafe, is not part of the school, nor are they a company that has signed a contract with the school. It should be a con-restaurant that is self-managed.”

“Con ... but it seems so realistic?”

“That’s right. Since it looks so real, nobody really wonders about it. However, that kind of thing shall not pass by me! A student restaurant suddenly appearing, why would it provide cheap and good tasting meals where it is impossible to make a profit?”

I understand.

“This matter definitely has something suspicious.”

Tsubasa faced me and continued to say:

“Because, there is an old saying that goes: “speak with honey words when facing them, but there will be criticisms of them behind their backs,” right?”

...

What is with your “Ugh, is that so?” expression! You think what I said is quite stunning? Following that, you aren’t gonna say “It’s just a student restaurant”!

Luckily she did not say that.

“Finally, when the truth finally comes out, you better not be close to the student restaurant. Because-”

Tsubasa used her clenched fist to knock on Ryuugamine's chair.

"-This matter has the scent of inherently evil devil. Put it all on me, I will definitely reveal her secret, I swear it upon the Hero's Justice.

"What! Oi, are you messing around again!"

"Come! Clean up your neck and wait for me! Maou!"

Tsubasa let out a "Ahahaha" laugh as she left the classroom. I was unable to stop her in a timely manner, but even if I had managed to stop her, nothing would have come out of it.

I let out a deep sigh.

"You are so troubled."

Towards Saitou's empathetic words, I could only let out a faint smile.

I cannot stand it.

My head hurts. Every time Tsubasa says the word Hero, normally nothing good will come out of it. That point it very clear.

Thinking again, what is Ryuugamine doing?

Certainly Tsubasa had said those words, today's cafe was filled with people surging about as before. The amount of people has also increased, there were no gaps between the people in the car park, it was so crowded that it begun to flow back into the school grounds.

Saitou also did not bring a bento, after we each bought out own meal tickets, we headed towards our respective food carts.

Beef with rice meal certainly draws people in, but the meals that the restaurant are most famous for is western food. Curry, hamburger, pork cutlet and fried prawns. The matter of whether fried pork cutlet is a western meal can be argued over, but it is a fried food, so nobody cares and just calls it western food. It should be said, it is already like that.

I line up for my meal, from there I was able to see the auntie who normally sells bread at the canteen. It was amazing for her to appear in such a place, I

originally thought that the auntie would be fuming, not really happy like she currently was.

Inside the kitchen, it was clear that the chef was a female with a small and skinny body that was busy at work. She had clearly rolled up the sleeves of the chef's uniform, following her with my eyes caused them to go haywire, it felt as though there was a small animal running around, but it made others appreciate her professional attitude. Her actions were fast, so fast that it was as though she splitting her body up. All the food at this cart is made by her? If that is true, then it is too much.

“Come! You have waited long enough!”

Not long after handing over the meal ticket, a large plate of the fried meal was served on the tray.

Uwah! Such large prawns! They were atleast thirty centimeters long, in fact two of them were served on the plate. Not only that, there were three scallops and three slices of pork cutlet ! Even if it is a meal, included was rice. It was not bread, but in fact white rice. For the sauce, it was possible to make a choice of tartar sauce, worcestershire sauce or pork sauce. I put onto the prawns what seemed to be a mountain-load of tartar sauce, the other parts of the meal was covered in the thick pork sauce. It makes it really hard for people to believe that it is real. The fact that it only costs 300¥ is too ridiculous. Unless it is subsidised by the school?

Returning to the seats, I could only see Kimura facing his Napoleon Pasta stacked up like Mount Fuji, all the while Saitou face the towering hamburger along with it's own mini mountain of chips. Both of them were already salivating. I understand how they feel, the fragrant smell of the food penetrated into my stomach.

“You are very slow!”

“Sorry.”

Certainly I don't feel as though I used up too much time, but the food cart that I lined up at seems to have the longest queue.

“However, that truly is incredible.”

Waiting for until I sat down, while using a knife to cut the hamburger, Saitou looked around the place.

“Everyone’s appetite is really scary. But I do not have the right to say that.”

He smiled as he cut apart the hamburger and then crammed the burger that was covered in tomato sauce and meat sauce into his mouth.

I look down upon my tray, feeling deeply the same about his words. He was not wrong. It was unbelievable, why would I order such a large platter? It should be impossible to completely eat this platter.

I originally thought like that, in the end, I was unable to continue thinking like that.

I could eat it one mouthful at a time, but I ate non-stop. My stomach quickly filled up, but my appetite overwrote the feeling of being full. Eh, not long later, I had managed to eat it all. So good, it tasted too good.

I was like a squirrel or a mouse stuffing my mouth with food, chewing all the food in my mouth while swallowing, even I was unable to believe that I managed to eat through the whole tray. 300円 can bring about such contentedness. I feel as though I might need to loosen my belt, but loosen it and then what? In one day... I feel as though I had eaten three days worth of calories.

Saitou and Kimura both showed faces of content, slightly patting their upturned stomachs. You too look like old geezers! I was also like that and so had no right to complain, but what was with the stomach!? You guys want to become sumo wrestlers! Your stomach looks as if it was about to burst!

Looking at each other’s stomachs, we were unable to suppress our laughter.

It was not looking down or bullying people, but a laughter brought about by happiness and the feeling of content. Looking around, even with nothing interesting around, people would let out a smile feeling fortunate.

Hahaha.

Humans are really straight forward. By only eating some good food, they will feel as though they are fortunate. However, at the thought of going home soon, we would feel even more fortunate. It is such a shame there are classes in the

afternoon. But my stomach is too big right now and I am unable to take any actions soon.

Suddenly-

“-Everybody stop!”

Suddenly, a loud noise resounded round the car park that was filled with content.

Unfortunately, I was the only one on the field, that was frightened awake by the sharp alarm noise. It was only my happiness that was spoiled, standing up from fear. My body felt heavy...

Saitou and Kimura were both distracted.

Truly, their expression were vacant. But if you know who let out that sound, you would also have the same kind of reaction as me! That’s right.

The owner of the noise was the one that jumped from the second floor’s balcony, letting out a gigantic noise. Seeing such a dangerous act, the teachers recovered their wits. All those students that heard the noise, seeing the item on the person’s back, could not help but let out an “ahhh” sound.

That person was standing on the top of a food car, was as though waving her arm to disperse the crowd.

“-Hurry up and open your eyes everyone! You have been entrapped within the 《Maou’s》 plans!”

Everybody was moving.

There was no need to ask who that was.

“Hikarigaoka!”

Correct, that’s right. The one that said that was the teacher. Remembering the correct words, that person could possibly be Tsubasa’s homeroom teacher?

“What are you doing! It is dangerous, hurry up and come down!”

Sensei...Your manner is very good! But clearly you have had too much to eat, being unable to stand up from your seat! Certainly I do not have the right to say this about anyone else, but it is simply impossible to respect your words!

Laughter came from all around.

That's right, the teacher's arms and legs moved as though he was dancing while seated as though it was a comedy act.

However, I was unable to laugh for even one moment. All of the previously happy emotions had dispersed like smoke, inside my head, alarm bells were ringing, a continuous unending noise.

Tsubasa acted as though she had not noticed the teacher. It should be said, she just didn't listen, nor did she listen to the words of the teacher just now. She was following the standard Hero's personality, only hearing what she wanted to hear, only seeing what she wanted to see.

Like how we do not normally take notice of the ants beneath our feet, but if we want to take notice of them, we will. Persona's will not normally take notice of us, all the Persona's emotions are set. Even if it was the normal peaceful her, when all is said and done, she is still a Persona. As such she is able to act in that manner.

"Come out for me, Maou!"

Tsubasa using a stamp as though planning on breaking through the roof of the food cart, kicked the roof of the kitchen. What is that hanging on top of her sword on her back? Looking at it, it seems heavy and bulky. The auntie from the canteen unhappily stuck her head out of the side window, but immediately ducked her head back in.

"Hurry up and come out!"

Tsubasa once again kicked the roof – However, looking at her like this, it was as though she was a kid throwing a tantrum, stamping her feet like that. In the end, laughter came from everywhere as the tension in the atmosphere let up. I think everyone in the car park had decided that I would be the only who thought we were in trouble.

In the end, the door to the food cart quietly opened. It is possible to see the chef, the woman who was running around busily preparing the feed walked out, I couldn't help myself and let out a cry.

Ryuugamine Ouko.

Previously, I only saw the shadow of her back, so I was unable to recognise her, but if I carefully think back, I did have a feeling as if I knew who the small body belonged to. I should have known about this already.

“This...This meal was made by the Maou...?”

Kimura’s face began to cramp up. He held onto his stomach, showing a face wondering whether the food contained any poison. Even so, Saitou only let out a murmur saying “so it was like that”.

“You have finally appeared, 《Maou》 – Ryuugamine Ouko!”

Tsubasa let out a fearless laugh, arrogantly looking down on Ryuugamine. Oi, the way you act is so much like a bad guy. Does this woman even have the self awareness of a Hero?

“I am the 《Hero》 Hikarigaoka Tsubasa! I have already seen through your dastardly plans.”

She pointed her finger towards Ryuugamine.

Ryuugamine did not say any cliché lines like “I have been found out” or “I did not think you would break through”, in fact, the expression she showed was one of fear. Her face froze up, the most spectacular part about it was the way her cheeks twitched.

“What...What are you saying?”

Your facial expression is too unnatural! In fact the chef’s hat that she was holding had been scrunched up in her hands!

Very...Very strange...Too strange indeed.

Tsubasa crossed her arms as though pushing up her large chest, all the while looking at Ryuugamine disdainfully.

“Pretending to be ignorant? Normal people might not see through you, but this kind of trick is nothing to me! At a glance, this is a cafe style restaurant serving convenient and substantial meals! But the truth is, the Maou is just trying to raise you up to become fat people, a plan that will cause the extinction of mankind due to metabolic syndrome.”⁹

.....

...

What...What is going on!

What kind of troublesome plan is that! You would need to spend roughly ten years before any success would show up! You are thinking too much about it! Using that kind of excuse to make such a loud fuss!



Laughter came from all around. Even saying so, even I almost laughed out loud.

However –

“T...T T T There was no such intention like that?”

why are you so afraid, Ryuugamine!

“I...I only wanted to let everyone eat a cheap and tasty meal, so I opened this cafe. I: you and I are not the same, I am a Maou, everybody is suspicious of me. So, I hope everybody will understand, I will only act as a Maou within the 《Fantasy World》, in this world, I am only an ordinary person.”

I hope to let everyone understand, I should not be blamed just because I am the Maou.

“Ryuugamine Ouko!”

Tsubasa flourished her sword that had been hanging on her back, leaving no room for argument, cut through Ryuugamine’s words.

“Did you really think I would believe those excuses?”

Her word brought about a round of ridicule.

“Following you makes me reflect on my actions?”

Ryuugamine did not reply. The meaning of that is, she is acknowledging that Tsubasa’s words are true? She really intends to fatten us up, removing our immunity to the disease?

It could possibly be – towards the me that knows Tsubasa really well, naturally that kind of thought came to mind.

Their personalities will become prominent. The Hero, Tsubasa, will work wholeheartedly towards justice, creating problems. Regarding the small matters, this is the reason she searches through my bags and my desk. The Maou, Ryuugamine, certainly does not do those kinds of things. However, she is still a Persona.

However, I looked at the food in front of me with care. If I was to eat this continually for three meals a day, for the next few years, there will be a chance

for the symptoms Tsubasa said to occur as a result. however, we are only able to eat it for the next three years, in fact, it is only for the mid day meal. It will be very hard to achieve the desired outcome.

Also, she was not the one that forced us to eat.

We were able to eat cheap and tasty food, Ryuugamine had begun on the path of the Maou. The situation is just as Tsubasa had said, she should not be causing a problem, of am I wrong?

Unless I am too naive?

No, I was not the only person to have that kind of thought. Everyone around the various takes let out laughter at Tsubasa's words, from there, the noise began to increase. There were some that did not feel a need to care about it, those mainly were the senior students.

It is hard to tell, this kind of event has been caused by other Personas before? Or, it is just hard for me to explain their reaction. The sempai's know that nothing bad will come out of it, so they will eat the Maou's food just like Saitou. Saitou and the Maou both went to the same junior high school. It is possible that such an event has happened before, so he is able to be calm at this time.

"Enough!"

Tsubasa shouted at us again:

"Everybody put down your forks and chopsticks! Do not eat any more! Line up together, you will need to immediately exercise! Hurry up and burn out the excess calories!"

Eh...What did you just say?

Tsubasa looks around the area, sucked in a breath and then said:

"-Everyone, start running!"

At the same time extending her fist.

...

What!?

How are we supposed to respond to that kind of request! telling us to run in

this kind of condition, impossible!

After a moment of silence, the place erupted in booing. Everyone would certainly revolt against that.

However, Tsubasa looked at the crowd as though she didn't care, not even listening to what they had to say. On her face, a sympathetic expression.

Seeing that expression, I started sweating cold sweat at the back of my neck.

Not good. This feeling is extremely discomforting.

"Tsubasa!"

I held onto my stuffed stomach, calling out in a loud voice:

"Nothing has happened! Look yourself! We are all very well! We were able to eat cheap and good food, towards us, this is a really good thing!"

"Jirou"

Tsubasa and I stared at each other. Looking at her face, it was as though she had not noticed me in the area. Whatever, we have known each for a long time now, but I am simply just a villager...Aah, so tragic.

Mmh!

Not right, I cannot see past the troubling time. If only she accepted the truth, even if she does not acknowledge me. I was trying to think up a plan before she acted. Certainly I do not know what she will do, but whatever it is is absolutely horrible!

"Oi! What are you planning on doing, hurry up and stop! You will have to suffer from a lecture from the teacher! Not right, that would not be such a bad thing, you should be afraid of a revolt by the people!"

"Grrrr! Jirou, you want to protect the Maou?"

"The situation is not as you think-"

Not finishing my words, I cut myself off. Wha...What? Ryuugamine, why are you showing those sparkly eyes towards me? What is with those high expectations of something to happen?

But comparatively on the other hand, I can only see Tsubasa's face wrinkle up

between her brows.

“Jirou you baka”

Tsubasa threw an unknown item. It was a green black colour, roughly the size of a basketball. I catch it on reflex. It was a drawstring bag. The bag was not closed allowing me to see inside.

“...A gas mask?”

Looking at it, I feel that it looks like one.

“Ahh, Crap!”

Tsubasa let out a cry of pain, worriedly looking around the quad, and then, her eyes finally stopped looking around.

“-That girl over there!”

Tsubasa used an expression as though she wanted to attack someone, pointing at an isolated person sitting at a nearby table, was a girl with a mountain of Italian bolognaise in front of them.[10](#)

The girl blinked her eyes in fear, stopping her hands that had originally been moving the fork – Oi, what time is it, how can you still continue eating as though nothing has happened! After eating through half of it, her cheeks were bulged out. There is sauce all over your face.

But that girl is really peculiar.

Not only did she continue eating, her reaction was sluggish and relaxed, even her appearance was weird. Certainly she was wearing a normal uniform, but using what could possibly be safety pins, on her uniform was hanging several large stuffed dolls. The weird thing is, the dolls had been twisted into weird poses, they feel as though they were animal corpses.

“That’s Tsukaya.”

Saitou opened his mouth.

“What?” Kimura asked in reply.

“She is a persona from our class. 《Necromancer》 – Tsukaya Mairi.”

“Ah, right!”

Kimura suddenly clapped his hands, I suddenly thought understood it. Thinking about it, there really was such a person in the class.

Actually I do not have the right to criticise those Persona.

Because, Personas are different from normal people, we would not normally make a connection.

Looking at my experience, it should be clear right? By only being associated with those Personas, nothing good will come out of it. So, having their own their existence, we will not originally remember their personality or what they are called.

Certainly Tsubasa and Ryuugamine are those kinds of people, however, their existence will definitely become rock solid in my mind. However, we will hold this kind of attitude towards the other Persona.

A smart person will not stand beneath a crumbling wall.

Avoiding those kinds of people.

But saying so – originally, she was one of those people? A Necromancer?

“She is one that manages corpses.”

It might have been that I was showing an expression of incomprehension, but Saitou just faced me and explained. However, I did not think that you would understand so much about Persona, you truly are an unfathomable guy.

In conclusion, Tsubasa extended her hand towards the necromancer.

“Give me the mask on your waist!”

That person looked down at her waist, undid the buckles holding the mask at her waist, before looking at Tsubasa.

“You wanted this?”

“That’s right! Lend it to me for a bit!”

“Why would she need a gas mask?”

Kimura asked.

“That is.” Saitou had explained: “It is due to the fact that the smell of corpses

is quite repugnant. Before the new necromancers are able to get used to that smell, they would always carry a mask around. After all, the moment they discover a corpse, they would become drawn to it.”

A human hating Persona.

In fact I have a bad feeling.

“-Don’t lend it to her!”

I shouted to stop, at the same time, a strong feeling welled up from my heart, a prediction of impending disaster. However Tsukaya did not hear me. She clearly did not notice my voice.

“I can lend it to you.”

After finishing her words, Tsukaya Mairi took out the gas mask. The mask flipped several times headed towards the roof of the food cart, before being caught in midair by Tsubasa.

She caught the mask in a way to give a signal. Suddenly, roughly ten male students jumped from the second floor staircase onto the restaurant car, standing behind Tsubasa. All of them were carrying a gas mask, as well as a black sports bag.

It is the comrades of the Hero!

Remembering the painful memories of junior high caused me to cry out in pain. Heroes have the ability to attract comrades. The same as when in the future in the 《Fantasy World》 forming a party, especially within a group of Personas, a group as if from shonen manga gathering a group of people, they would work with Tsubasa in the same activities.

It is because there are those types of people, I went through so many tough times. The reason is, they are not used to the good relationship between a normal person like me and their Hero-sama.

Certainly, Tsubasa was unable to recognise the tough times that I went previously went through, I did not specially report it to her. Reporting such a small matter seems to be so petty, is that not so? Speaking again, those kinds of people in the other world can also use magic, but here they are ordinary

students. Instead of looking for trouble, I can solve the problem on my own.

However, even in senior high, those kinds of people will appear. Hopefully I will not become involved with them...However – towards the village, they are hard working.

On the other hand, Ryuugamine was very calm, not even her eyes were blinking. After Tsubasa took notice of the crowd behind, she put down the bag on her back. Under the happiness of a Hero, nobody was celebratory to begin clapping her hands, they were just staring blankly.

Tsubasa opened the zipper of the bag, out came a silver coloured object. The comrades of the Hero also followed with similar actions. Very suspicious. Only the two words ‘very suspicious’ could be used to describe it...but because it was too suspicious, nobody was able to feel that it was funny. Instead, sneaky laughter came from around the place.

Only I could not laugh. Not even talking about laughter, my heart has been beating so much that it is now in pain.

Tsubasa posed facing the sky as though she was busy. Then, spoke the following:

“I understand. You can run later.”

“Unfortunately! I cannot leave the matter of the Maou’s food alone! Even if you burn through all the calories, if you eat it again, it will lose meaning, so I will make it so that you won’t want to eat the Maou’s food again. And so-Sorry!”

She let loose the bag on one side, the Hero’s comrades also followed.

The items inside fell out, in fact they fell out. Certainly, it was not only Tsubasa, but also the Hero’s comrades. So dangerous! Aren’t they cans? And also, what are you doing? The metal lid and bottom started to expand!...is this a can of fish?

“Su...Surstromming!”

Saitou let out a wail.

“What?”

“-Begin Justice”

Hearing Tsubasa's words, I turned around and saw her holding onto objects that looked like guns in both hands. I do not know when, she had already put on the gas mask, the Hero's comrades were also the same. Tsubasa's hands were hooked around the trigger, but did not release any gun noises. Tsubasa and the boys around were also holding the same type of machinery, apart from when they were releasing nerve gas or the sound of gas escaping.

The cans on the table let out a metallic sound. At that time, I finally know what the gun was. Because, I was able to see for myself the bullets pierce through the cans.

Nails.

They were holding onto nail guns! Oi, Tsubasa! Those kinds of things should not be aimed at a person's body!

In the next moment, with a "Puff" sound, the cans jumped a foot from the top of the table. Not only one, all of the cans that had been pierced through also jumped up, all of the liquid sprayed out from inside.

"-So Smelly!"

The smell pushed into the nose, the piercing force of the smell, it was as though the face was being smashed in by a giant hammer, too extreme! Looking back, it was impossible to describe in words. However, it was the first time in my life that I had known, such a bad smell would cause pain to people. smelling so bad that even my nose was in pain!

Students fell down, they began to faint. Saitou and Kimura had already fallen down. I think I will soon fall to the same fate. Truly – it has been a long time since you harmed me in such a way, Tsubasa!

Right! There is a gas mask!

I open the cutely designed drawstring bag-However, the string...the string was too hard to undo! Tsubasa! You tied it too tightly! Unable to open it! In fact my fingers are numb!

"-Caught it!"

During the time when I was struggling with the drawstring bag, a group

wearing gas masks and clad in black clothing appeared from an unknown place, immediately climbing onto the car roof.

“Wait...Wait a moment! Think about who I am, I am-”

Men in black uniform jumped on top of the car, in the blink of an eye, they had dragged off the comrades of the Hero as well as Tsubasa.

Ah...They certainly came.

That group of black clad people, they are there to limit the the Persona's actions. Simply said, they are the police specifically for the Personas. Persona's have the freedom and personality that prevents it from being inhibited, but their freedom is limited. Once the Persona's have exceeded the state of their character, the black clad people would appear, they would take the Personas to the 《Facility》.

I do not know what kind of place that is, however, even Tsubasa is afraid of that place, that place should be horrible.

Going back, I am simply unable to undo the string!

But following that, Tsubasa was afraid that she would not return for five days – Thinking up to this point, I am unable to remember any more.

For a period of time, my body stunk.

The school took the uniforms to be specially washed, simply washing my hair once was unable to completely remove the smell, I was woken up several times by the stench of my hair. The ones affected by the smell was not only me, during class, there were several students yawning.

The students that did not go to the student restaurant were the most pitiful, certainly classes the next day were cancelled, but that was to clean up the car park, not because of us, so the stench floated around the classroom. Everyone was only breathing through their mouths, looking as though they were a goldfish placed in a fish tank lacking air. that kind of action where it was hard to breath lasted for three days, by the fourth day, we were finally able to breath normally and the uniforms finally returned.

During that timw, Tsubasa did not appear in my class. There was the

possibility, she is still in the Facility being taught a lesson.

And then, yesterday night, she returned.

From my window, I noticed a black van that stopped in front of her house, dropping down a Tsubasa that looked as though she had been kidnapped by aliens, passing her back to her mum. Like last time, it was as though her mind was not there.

Whatever, after roughly two or three days, she will return to her normal self, in conclusion she will take today off. I think, I will buy a pudding and visit her on my way home.

After, the other person that was involved, the one that could be said as the biggest victim, Ryuugamine Ouko. Today, she was also absent from class.

I don't know the reason for her absence.

Since she was not taken away by that group of men in black clothing, even if I ask Deckar-Sensei, sensei would reply that she does not know.

So, I will go to the old school building that I haven't been to for a while, this is in no way related to her! I was not worried for her in the slightest way.

That is the truth.

Whatever, I carried a drawstring bag that carried my lunch box, jumping over the pile of equipment, passing through the narrow gap, coming up to the small door.

The first time I went there, Ryuugamine did not use a key to open the door. The door certainly had a lock, but normally it does not seem to be locked. The courtyard only had this one door, if it was locked, the courtyard would become meaningless.

The door opened with the sound like creaking chains, warm air along with the smell of fresh air flowed through, letting me take a relaxed breath. How should I say, my heart feels refreshed. However, I feel that a senior high school student should not be chasing this kind of healing feeling, but to relax so much that I let out a sigh, this was something that could not be helped.

I passed through the doors before closing them with the back of my hands.

“Ah!”

Raising my head, I couldn't help but cry out.

“Ayah”

Ryuugamine Ouko was there.

She relaxed along the long bench, spreading the lunch box on her thigh.

It looks like she is not eating bread this time. The canteen bread returned to life the following day, when I passed by earlier, it was the same as before with everyone clamouring.

Seeing the Ryuugamine that I have not seen for a while, her attitude was the same as before, relaxed and pondering, I do not know why I released a sigh. Certainly she could not have any major changes over only a few days, however, the expression of embarrassment she had a few days ago was as if it was a dream.

“Let me ask...Who are you?”

Wah-

“I am the vice class president, Satou Jirou!”

“...Ah, right!”

Ryuugamine clapped her hands in remembrance.

Maybe, having even my name being recalled by a Persona should be considered a miracle, but if I simply have some connections with these people, I will begin to wonder how frail and weak my presence is among them.

“You came to eat lunch?”

She randomly asked.

“Ah...Sorry for bothering you-”

“Ara, no problems.”

Ryuugamine pointed at the spot beside her, motioning for me to sit. Mmh... She was hoping that I would not refuse, this caused me to hesitate...Nothing can be done! I carelessly sit at the end of the bench, so that I did not bump her

should. Certainly half of my butt was not on the seat, but I did not care too much.

“You are eating a bento today.”

Ryuugamine looked at the drawstring bag on my lap, slightly tilting her head.

So it was that matter that she remembered me by.

“Last time was only by chance. Thinking back, class president, today you are not eating bread.”

“That’s right. Because I still have ingredients left over after the restaurant, I am cooking the rest of the ingredients. Certainly my parents are very happy, however...Truly regretful.”

“I also feel the same”

When I finished speaking, Ryuugamine let out a surprised expression.

“You...What are you thinking...?”

“What?”

Ryuugamine slightly dipped her head and then puffed up her cheeks.

Wait...What? I caused her to be mad? Why? What strange things did I say? Because Ryuugamine said it was regretful, I said that I also agree-Ah! Unless, she feels as though I was pitying her? If it was like this, then I committed a big mistake. I feel very regretful. However, being able to eat such cheap food that is so tasty, it is impossible to find such a place.

And then, Ryuugamine let out a deep sigh.

“Everyone was saying the same thing to me. They were not saying ‘what a shame’, but asking ‘will I open the restaurant again’...That is strange.”

“Eh? Unfortunately...I don’t think that is strange-”

“It clearly is strange!”

Ryuugamine lifted her head, looked at me sideways through her eyes. Mmh, to think she was the Maou, her face was not even frightening. Looking at it, Ryuugamine seemed to really lack the physique.

“Because, my plan was seen through by the Hero! Unfortunately, why are the people who feel that having eaten my food feel regret. Why would they want to eat more? Is that not strange? In fact, there are some people thanking me... This...This feeling is very uncomfortable!”

Ryuugamine shivered as though passing through a trial, at the same time holding her own body, non-stop rubbing her upper arms.

Wait. Wait, Wait.

The Hero exposed the plan? What did she just say? She said—

I gulped down some saliva.

“Unless...Everything Tsubasa said was the truth...?”

“That’s right!”

Ryuugamine once again puffed out her cheeks-Too close! Your face is crowded in too close! Both our noses and forehead were about to hit each other!

“Certainly this is the first time that I have seen one in my life, But she certainly lives up to the name of a Hero! Being able to accurately see through my plans...”

Ryuugamine fisted her hands, constantly shaking them around.

Wo...Won’t?

Your meaning is, all that was said was true? The stupid words about feeding humans far using tasty food in order exterminate people through metabolism sickness?

“However, why are you so afraid? This plan was originally yours.”

“From me?”

Not right, this is not related to me! I do not know anything about this! Those words are too sudden. When was it!? When did I come up with such a foolish plan!

“But if you are thinking correctly, it should be said that you were the one that gave me the hint.”

The situation was like that. However, I cannot remember when I gave you the hint!

“Weird? You forgot about it?”

It was probably because my reaction was a little strange. Ryuugamine thoughtfully furled her brows, slightly tilting her head. Unfortunately, nothing can be done, I truly can't remember. Speaking again, how is it possible for me to forget a plan about exterminating mankind! I would most likely be one of the first eliminated!

“Previously, weren't we eating lunch here?”

I remember that matter. It was because of that time, that I am currently at this place.

“At that time, I asked whether eating too much was good or bad, right?”

That's right...I had briefly touched onto that.

“You gave me the idea at that time. You said, eating too much can lead to lifestyle issues, this type of sickness can lead to a huge problem and can be made worse during the teenage years.”

.....

...

What!

“Came up with it?”

Not Wrong. I definitely said those words, yet, I was earnestly answering the question. However –

Ryuuamine had a faint smile on her face.

“You gave me such a good idea. Afterwards, I did some research on my own, finding out that this lifestyle sickness is a major issue in the population. Unfortunately, adults have the self control to prevent this issue – certainly there are adults that are unable to help themselves – but senior high students are unable to do so. Especially boys, you are unable to help your appetites, is that not so?¹¹ Certainly girls get used to dieting from middle school onwards, so they are harder to deal with, but trying my best, their ability to resist is less than that of adults. So I decided to open a student restaurant, using cheap and tasty food for the students to spread the seeds! The seeds that would bloom and eliminate

mankind!”

After hearing that, I became still, unable to find any sort of response!

“However, my plans were exposed by the Hero. Too scary, I can only congratulate her on her ability to see through me. However, it doesn’t matter.”

You say it doesn’t matter!

“Because, the plans within this world are only practice rounds.”

So it can be said, we almost got metabolism sickness during a practice round!

“I don’t understand.”

When Ryuugamine is unhappy, her brows would scrunch up with really deep patterns.

“When my plans had been exposed, there was nobody that was afraid. I don’t understand, shouldn’t you all be afraid? Everything that I did, saying for example, it was as though everytime you ate from the restaurant, it was as though there was poison being added through food! Once you hear those words, wouldn’t you all sweat from fear, or blame me? Why would you feel the need to thank me? Why would they need to thank me!?”

She searched me for a reply.

I did not wish to reply. Even if I did not wish to reply, I was unable to not reply. That is my 《Class》. Personas only need to ask a question, us normal people-《Villagers》are unable to not reply. Even if the question is regarding the extermination of mankind or for justice, we are unable to escape it. Because this is a part of our character.

“Exactly what is it about?”

Actually, even without this kind of job, I could possibly have also replied. I would carefully think about the reason, rather than reply I don’t understand. Following on, what kind of guy would not be laughed at, when asked a question by a girl asking what is it, wouldn’t they carefully contemplate the answer? In this situation, not caring if the other person is the Maou, the person asking the question is a cute girl!

“It roughly is-”

So, I licked my lips, opened my mouth in reply:

“-It is related to the fact that there is no poison inside.”

Ryuugamine expressed discontent.

“I certainly cannot put any poison in. If I had put poison in, I would have been found out quite quickly. The main aim was not to be discovered by the Hero, So I couldn’t do something so simple as putting poison in.”

“So.”

I spoke the truth. Because, I was speaking the truth, it is what I carry as part of who I am. Speaking truthfully to other people, brings me happiness.

“Speaking like that, wouldn’t your plan be considered a success? Humankind were unable to see through your plans, even when the Hero exposed your plan, nobody believed it to be true. So there was nobody opposing you, wouldn’t your plan be considered smooth and a success?”

For that matter, that is how I felt.

If Tsubasa had not caused that commotion, the student restaurant would have been more and more successful, there is almost guaranteed to be a few very fat people. Related to eating too much and developing metabolism disease, it is limited to our time as students, because there is a limit of three years, it should not be that bad. Unfortunately, if this was an example if it taken even further, it is guaranteed to succeed.

However, of this plan was taken to an international level, before everyone starts to develop this disease, the world would be rid of starvation and Ryuugamine would receive the thanks of the world.

Looking at the reaction She had received, if the situation became like that, she became nervous and didn’t know how to respond.

I can only feel that is wrong.

The Maou’s plan to eliminate mankind, shouldn’t it be spectacular, shouldn’t it be fearsome? Why would you think of a plan to support mankind to make them develop metabolism disease, why would you think of such a dull plan without warfare?

To the me that was unable to explain, I directly asked her.

“Eh? Such a boring plan?”

Unable to understand what is going on at the bottom of her heart.

Such a boring plan! Not putting in poison, simply waiting for the opposition to get fat, develop a sickness, how is this plan spectacular in any way!

“Whatever, it’s not related.”

It’s not related, again!

“Whether it is spectacular or dull, that is not related to the final result. If it is to control mankind, by simply putting fear into the hearts of people will work. However, I want to exterminate mankind, in the end it is simply to eliminate, putting fear into their hearts, so much fear, there is no meaning in that, there is no meaning in that is there?”

How am I supposed to reply to that! I am also one of the ones you want to eliminate!

...No, not right, I made a mistake. The mankind that she wants to eliminate, are simply those in the other world, the 《Fairytale World》, not this world.

However, so scary.

Such a scary thought for the people. She was thinking as the Maou taking place in the story, there will always be an indeterminable result. Being a Villager, I absolutely do not wish to be part of the same story. I think, I will definitely be eliminated by her.

Ryuugamine opened her mouth as though she had just thought of something:

“Right, do you know what the Hero used in those cans?”

“Ah, you are speaking about that.”

I thought back again about the can, I feel as though I was about to faint again.

“I heard it was called Surstromming.”[12](#)

I had already asked Saitou. He had already told me they are named like that. Ryuugamine showed a face of incomprehension, continuing on to ask:

“What kind of language is that in?”

“I hear the cans are from Sweden, so maybe Swedish?”

I do not know which countries language that is.

“I don’t know the meaning of the word, but it is said that is is a traditional canned herring from Sweden.”

“Herrings are a type of fish?”

“It should be? Certainly I did not see the contents, but there are no other types of meat called herring¹³, so I think it is like that. Speaking again, that is the smelliest can in the world, very famous for it. When I think about it afterwards, I think it has been used on television as a penalty in a game show.”

“Mmh, I don’t agree with playing with food.”

Ryuugamine let out a dissatisfied expression. Why are you caring about something like that! However, I don’t think those cans used in the student restaurant were wasted. Because the organisation has made a statement, all of those cans will be eaten by Tsubasa and her comrades. Ah, it is very dependent on the person, even so, thinking about it, it is described as being quite tasty, so it cannot be considered a punishment. For food with strong smells like salted fish¹⁴, natto¹⁵ or cuttlefish¹⁶ sushi, there are people that hate it are unable to stand it, but people that love eating it, enjoy it.

I continued on to say:

“Once they have been put into cans, they would continue to ferment in the cans. Hence more gas is created, causing the cans to inflate. Because Tsubasa had used nails to puncture the cans, so the contents would spray out-”

Mmm, I thought about it again.

Ryuugamine was also like that, she let out an expression as if she did not know whether to be sharp or bitter. She was previously the same as me, sleeping halfway and then waking from the smell. Among the two of us, both of our faces had the same expression?

...I didn’t have any appetite.

Ryuugamine appeared the same, she used a cute handkerchief to wrap up the lunch spread across her lap. I also closed the string of the drawstring bag. I think, only drinking juice today will be enough.

Speaking of which, Tsubasa caused us all fatal trauma using food! I think she is the one that will exterminate mankind!

Ryuugamine let out a sigh.

“I had heard that the Hero is the Maou’s nemesis, but who would have thought that her powers exceed even my imagination?”

There is no need to say something so ridiculous that I start spitting food from laughter.

Your meaning is, she is outstanding? That Tsubasa? That so, if she had beaten Ryuugamine’s plans, that could possibly be considered to be outstanding, however – you guys stray so far from the track!

“When the plan was exposed, my heart jumped rapidly.”

That was because you were panicked.

“At the time it was exposed, my heart was impulsively beating without stop.”

“That so? Looking at you, you are very calm?”

“That is not so! See.”

Ryuugamine took my hand and then placed it on her boobs – her boobs!?

This...This feeling is very soft! Afterwards?

“See, jumping really quickly?”

My heart was the one jumping really quick! It should be said, it was as though it was about to explode!

I hurry up and let go off her, taking my hand off her chest. She tilted her head as though asking “What are you doing?”.

Right, that’s right, I did that! It really was serious! I was conscious of what was happening, the first time I touched a woman’s chest! I truly touched it!

So scary...Her chest is quite small and also very soft-No, the main point is not

that! Truly, Persona's are people that are impossible to stand. I understand! Those people are unable to recognize that I am a man, so they are able to uncaringly act in such a manner!

...Ha.

Whatever. Seeing as nothing happened because of it.

"Did something happen?"

"Nothing, nothing happened..."



“That so. In the end, next time I will not lose! Next time, I will definitely eliminate mankind!”

Ryuugamine clenched her fist. She then grabbed the hand that was placed on her chest.

Certainly there is a next time.

Un, you may receive pleasure in exterminating mankind. But I am pleading with you, next time please leave me – please leave everyone out of your plans! Please!

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TL Notes:

1. The description 杏眼圓睜 means stares with eyes wide open like apricots, and originates from the description of a female with eyes wide due to anger. [↩](#)
2. The Chinese uses the description 水藍色 which is water blue, but as we all know water is transparent, if they had used ocean or sea blue, this might have made more sense. [↩](#)
3. TL rant: I don't think this is what you are meant to learn from this. [↩](#)
4. 嘿咻 means “to make love” in colloquial Chinese, from the Jap it is a sfx of strain, (よいしょ) while the Cantonese pronunciation is like makyou which is nothing like a straining noise [↩](#)
5. Not clear whether it means “don't tell me, you started it” or “don't tell me, you believed it” [↩](#)
6. around 3.05 AUD or 2.5 USD at current exchange rates. [↩](#)
7. I replaced the chinese idiom “A thousand truths and ten thousand guarantees” with “Absolutely true” [↩](#)
8. Chinese is day after tomorrow or day before yesterday, tense is ambiguous. [↩](#)
9. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metabolic_syndrome [↩](#)
10. Chinese translates to “A plate of italian bolognaise that was like a

mountain tall girl.” ↵

11. appetites in this case referring to food as well as women. ↵
12. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surstr%C3%B6mming> ↵
13. herring or clupea – <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clupea >↵
14. 鹹魚 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salted_fish↵
15. 納豆 <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natt%C5%8D >↵
16. 魷魚 <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuttlefish> ↵

Chapter 3

Chapter 3

“Strange...?”

Roughly one month has passed since the student restaurant incident, in the middle of leaving school, I say a certain female student peeping at the park at the end of the alleyway, and so I stopped walking. With just a glance, I was able to recognise the person who was between the book store and the supermarket. There is absolutely no way I would not be able to tell who that small body belonged to.

That should be the class president of the class I’m in, Ryuugamine Ouko.

Who is also a Maou.

She had bent her waist, hiding behind a pile of cardboard boxes – She probably wants to hide, but from where I was standing, it was eminently clear. Oi, everyone is staring at you with interested eyes.

She is definitely scheming up some other bad idea. In fact, the moment she comes up with any sort of idea, she is a senior high student who will conceive of a plan to eliminate mankind.

Ah, nothing can be done about her.

Since I had already seen it, I was unable to leave her alone...She is the class president, I am the vice class president. If she was to cause trouble on her way home from school, I would be chased down to take responsibility. I heard, this was a request put onto Deckar-Sensei by the lifestyle counselling teachers group, putting me directly in charge of Ryuugamine.

Truly, why would you tell me a normal person to come up with ideas on her.

She can’t even remember my features or my name for that matter! In fact, it is not clear whether this will continue like this for eternity.

However, nothing can be done about that. Because that is the nature of the Personas.

I pull off the school bag from my shoulders, putting it into my hands to carry. Then, turning my body on it's side, advance along the narrow alleyway, towards the rear side of Ryuugamine who was lying on the ground.

"Oi, what are you doing?"

I open my mouth to ask.

Speaking of which, what is with your posture? I simply need to crouch a bit, and then I will be able to see under your skirt! Certainly, I did not look. But I also don't want to not look.

Truthfully, I wanted to give her a fright – Unfortunately, she did not give a reaction. Ryuugamine straightened her body, looking at me with a certain face, after letting out an "ah" sound, she let out a faint smile.

Her reaction was not what I expected.

This was not an expression I expected her to show a stranger. Unless, she has already remembered my face?

"Mmg."

I slightly raise my hands, showing that I mean no harm.

"You are returning home? Eh...Villager A-san."

Haha.

Not even remembering my name, she also has forgotten that I am the vice class president.

However, looking at it, she seems to remember what I am. Certainly after the incident with the school restaurant, in the courtyard, she seemed to be able to slightly recall that I was familiar with her. But during the times in the classroom, her manner was as though she didn't know me at all. This leads me to wonder whether she is able to even remember me at all...but whatever, she seems to be able to remember who I am today.

However-A?

"Ryuugamine."

"What is it?"

“I can understand how you are able to recognise me as a villager...However, what is with the A?”

“Umm...I can remember your face, however I simply cannot recall your name, so I decided to call you A. You are special compared with the others. You aren’t happy about it?”

“No, it is certainly better.”

Crowd of people...Certainly I am not satisfied with that ridiculous answer. Or could it be said, she is unable to differentiate Saitou and Kimura? It is because of this that she is also a Persona.

But even so!

I was simply called A, why does my heart have a thread of happiness! Feeling enough to let out a smile! I am an idiot!

“I am called Satou”

I do not think she will event remember, however I still give her my name.

“Satou Jirou, I am the vice class president.”

Ryuugamine placed her pointer on her bottom lip, tilting her cute head in consideration.

She kept it there for one second – five seconds.

She moved her eyes slowly, falling deep into thought.

“Ah, right.”

Nodding her head, Ryuugamine Ouko let out a smile.

Finally, she finally recalls it? However, I think she will immediately forget it again.

“You are going home?”

It looked as though she was about to take another action, asking asking the same question she had previously asked. That’s right, I have yet to her question.

“That’s right, I am going straight home.”

I see, I have already been called to the staffroom, interrogated about the

actions regarding the incident. Because I did not reply, that matter was treated as though it never happened. When I was asked “There is a person during the lunch break, who saw the two of you in the old school building”, I became so nervous that my heart sped up. However I did not reveal the truth of the matter. I don’t know why, I do not want to speak about what had happened in that courtyard.

Ryuugamine respectfully bowed her head.

“Thanks for your hard work.”

“It’s nothing, nothing at all.”

I also bowed my head without knowing it...What kind of stupid words did I use to reply. Everytime I speak with her, my routine keeps getting messed up by her.

“That’s right...What did you want me for?”

“Nothing, I just coincidently say you just now. You were hiding and doing something right?”

After hearing my question, Ryuugamine face changed as though suddenly remembering something.

“Oh!”

She stuck up her pointer, putting it onto her lips that were stuck out like a duck, indicating for me to be quiet, at the same time suddenly furrowing her eyebrows, using both eyes to sneak a glance all over.

“Be quiet for a bit, vice class president-san. Or we will be found out.”

It was spoken in a hushed tone.

“Be found out by whom?”

“That group of kids over there.”

I lift up my head, following Ryuugamine’s finger pointing at the park.

In the sandpit, there were three little kids playing. Kids roughly in primary school at a smaller grade? The kids slowly added water to the sand strengthening it, creating an extremely amazing structure.

“I don’t understand.”

“That is a project that they have spent nearly two hours to complete.”

“How do you know that?”

“Because I heard it from the beginning.”

“From then!?”

Ryuugamine let out a laugh.

What are you planning on doing!

I look at her with dumb eyes, unfortunately Ryuugamine does not notice there is anything different.

“Because if the thing was destroyed in a short time, they will just blame it all on a jerk. Waiting for them to make it amazing and then to destroy it in one go, this is an idea I personally came up with.”

She spoke in such a cute manner.

...

...So¹

Your plan is too narrow in it's scope, Maou-sama. Even I can't help but let out a sigh!

“Ryuugamine, I have a question to ask you.”

“What is it?”

“How is that related to the demise of mankind? From the way I see it, it feels as though you were just bullying them.”

Ryuugamine puffed up her cheeks. Wah, Her cheeks are really puffed!

“That is not like that!”

“Oi, you are too loud-”

“Listen up!”

Ryuugamine lifted up her finger. lifting her eyebrows up.

“Deeply putting into their hearts the feeling of ‘Effort is a Waste’, a plan to turn them into adults that lack willpower!”

What kind of slow plan is that!

“After the kids that have lost their will power grow up, they will stop contributing to society, causing humankind to slowly diminish. This was shown on television some time ago.”

Can someone give me this person’s television antenna to snap!

“It’s nearly time for me to take action!”

Ryuugamine suddenly stood up, turning around and preparing to leave.

“Wait...Wait a moment!”

Hearing my call to stop, Ryuugamine unwillingly looked back. I nearly grabbed onto her shoulder, but stopped at the last moment. I don’t think Ryuugamine would care, but I had a bit of wavering...Because, I don’t think I should touch a girl without just cause.

“What is it?”

“Nothing, that’s...There is no need to do something like that? Seeing as there are already so many NEETs.”

“NEETs?”

“The type of people that do not work, adults that are relying on their parents for support-roughly like that?”

“NEETs will cause problems? If their parents have the resource to raise them and if they do so voluntarily, they should not cause to many disturbances.”

“The country would be quite shaken.”

“Why?”

“Because there are people that work, the country is able to collect tax. So, if the amount of NEETs was to rise, the country would face certain issues – I hear it is like that.”

Too much, too much, I begin to let out sweat. Not good, have I just spoken more than I should have spoken? I close my lips, waiting for Ryuugamine’s reaction. Waiting for her to smile or let out an “is that so” type of phrase. The only thing she did was tilt her head, looking at me with an expression saying

“Please continue”.

The end of it. That is the end of this topic. I will not speak another word on this topic of NEETs.

“Final...Finally I understand that you want to do, the only thing is, will something as petty as destroying their sandcastle really result like that?”

“Nng-”

“That’s enough on that topic! You should answer my question first!”

“Right. Eh.... My plans are not that minor. A result that they worked hard for, then forcefully obliterated in a matter of moments – That will bring about an incomparable feeling of emptiness. That not so-”

Ryuugamine faced the sky with closed eyes, the closed fists unable to stop trembling.

“I am forever unable to forget, the time during my childhood where I experienced a similar event. A giant spade, causing the annihilation of the snowman that was just missing it’s nose to be completed.”

Inside my mind, floated up the image of Ryuugamine in front of her family home piling up snow to build a snowman. Maybe it is because it was piled on the side of the road, blocking someone. If it is so, those kinds of people over the top.

“...Within that world, how is these some adult that can act in such an unwavering way”

Ryuugamine opened both her eyes, looking at me in a strange manner.

“That’s not it! The opposition was not an adult. It happened during the time when I was in kindergarten, the one that destroyed my snowman, is a girl who was from the same grade as me.”

So it was in fact a student from the same grade! How would kids in kindergarten using a spade to wipe out a snowman in one go!

“Even until now, every time I remember that incident, I become angry. You know, I spent quite a lot of effort into building that snowman! Using the morning’s effort in order to complete it, I planned on putting it during the afternoon nap time onto the sleeping teacher’s bed, so that they would think

that they had wet the bed, such that society would lose their trust! If that succeeded, I could then observe the way society killed off a person and the way the individual would change.”

What were you going! There will definitely be someone to prevent that! ... Not right, wait a moment, I feel there is something strange about that. Her snowman was destroyed, would such a thing happen occasionally.

“Ryuugamine, let me ask. Which kindergarten did you attend?”

“I think it would have been the kindergarten in the northern district of the city.”

There is nothing wrong with that!

Thinking about it. I am not 100% sure, but thinking about it. I know about that situation. Because, I attended that same kindergarten, also Tsubasa attended that one as well.

The culprit must definitely be Hikarigaoka Tsubasa.

Until recently, I did not believe that Tsubasa had displayed any qualities showing herself as a Hero, however, looking back, I simply did not see how she fit the Hero role. Ryuugamine and Tsubasa are destined to be against each other, it all began from early on!

“What is it?”

“No... Nothing... I just wanted to ask.”

“That’s.”

The agreement might have brought about some rest to the anger, Ryuugamine put down her shaking fist.

“However, I only spent two weeks at that kindergarten. This was because the original kindergarten that I was studying at was undergoing repair, so I was temporarily placed there.”

I finally understand. If it is like that, the matter of the rivalry between Ryuugamine and Tsubasa, could not have begun from such a small matter. It was such a small thing that it would be ridiculous for it to be the cause.

“However, Ryuugamine. Looking back, you did not feel any sadness due that that, is that not so? If it was like that, wouldn’t that sort of method have no effect? I feel that you are just wasting your energy-”

“Because I am a Maou.”

Ryuugamine’s attitude became resolved.

Right.

If she has stated so, there is nothing I can say. Personas are different from us normal people, so they are unable to draw from their own experiences. Her meaning should be like that.

“Looking at it, your already seem to understand”

I don’t want to understand.

“Right, it’s about time for me to go”

Ryuugamine once again turned around then...

“Ah.”

She let out a small sound, stopped moving.

“What? Won’t?”

She became unable to control herself. Exactly what just happened?

...Hahaha.

I look over Ryuugamine’s head towards the park, immediately being able to see the reason. Because the children had already stopped playing in the sand. I guess they are already tired of playing there. They clapped their hands, flicking away the sand that had stuck onto their feet and pants, standing around discussing what to play next. Looking at the sand castle that they were planning to build, it is clear that only half of it has been completed, yet it had not been complete. Initially, they had planned on putting small window openings, however as work progressed and the building became even taller, their design had already become disorganised with less and less effort being put in.

“Ah, such a shame Ryuugamine. Nothing can be done, they are children after all. The main part has failed, hurry up and go home.”

“No...No!”

Ryuugamine shook her head. With a lot of energy, her hair spread out nearly slapping me in the face. However I had already moved aside.

“You can’t!”

You aren’t going to give up? If it is like it currently is, there is no point in destroying it right. That is what I thought. Unfortunately, Ryuugamine does not think of it in the same way about the matter.

“You should not stop halfway through what you are doing!”

“What?”

I ask trying to understand, but Ryuugamine had already run out of the alleyway, arriving at the park. Sliding to a stop, blocking the the kids that were planning to leave.

What is that person doing!

As expected, the kids let out a really surprised expression. However, looking at the opposition, the age gap between us is neither big nor small – the difference is actually big – Seeing that it was a girl, the kids relaxed their breath.

“You...What are you doing?”

One of the older kids compared to the others, roughly year 3 or 4 in primary school asked the question. He really did not know what was going on, moving the smaller kids to behind his back, protecting them.

Ryuugamine put both her hands on her hips, pushing out her chest, sucked in a deep breath:

“You guys, it is not allowed!”

After hearing the cries she made, the kids stood up straight.

“Why would you waste effort only to stop halfway!? Since you have already started, you have to endure it until the end!”

“You...What are you talking about...?”

“I am saying!”

Ryuugamine pointed at the sandpit with a shah sound. I think, I really heard a “Shah” sound. The kids seemed as though they were drawn in, turning their heads to look at the sand pit they were previously playing in. Inside was a sand castle they had left, one that was far from complete.

“Complete what you have started! How can you do something that looks good initially, but fails halfway through, you will forever be unable to become excellent adults!”

What are you saying! -But speaking of which, what is your meaning? Wanting them to become excellent adults, wouldn't that hurt your brain thinking about it?

Ryuugamine let out a never before seen smile, letting out a small laugh at the kids.

Uwah...there is not enough freedom.

Certainly the children seem to have been taken in by the lie, unfortunately I have not. That is absolutely not a smile that is neither malicious or good. What are you planning this time?

“Come, Onee-chan will also help, we will complete it together right?”

Ryuugamine had a forced smile, running across to the side of the children, and then twisting their shoulders, making them turn around. The children did not revolt. Is that the leadership ability of a Persona? Everyone normally says it, the Maou and the Hero both have strong leadership qualities, but I seem to be unaffected. (The words revolt and twist are the best I can think of for the chinese verbs used. for the revolt, it would be something like pushing the person away. For the word twist, it would mean draw to one's side and direction.)

The main point is not that.

I wave towards the Ryuugamine that was by the children's side in the sand pit.

“Come over here.”

I originally thought that she would not respond to my request, I did not expect her to be co-operative and come over, asking me what was my problem.

“What do you want to do about it?”

I ask in a low voice.

“What is the meaning behind those words?”

“What you said before, compared to your current actions are the complete opposite! Didn’t you want them to become kids that did not have any will power in order to exterminate humankind? Why would you need for them to continue building?”

“You really don’t understand.”

Ryuugamine let out a giggle.

“If they are to stop, my plans would all wash away. So I need to make them continue building it, waiting until they are near completion before breaking it, that way they will experience the feeling of emptiness from wasted effort.”

Your plans...Every one of them is so long winded.²

“So if you understand, I will also need you to participate and help.”

“Why would I need to-”

“Aren’t you my vice class president? Seeing the situation as it is, you should be helping me out in this.”

That is not right! I am certainly your vice class president, but that is limited to within the classroom, I do not need to help you exterminate mankind!

The words came to the lips of my mouth, but I held them back with my mouth shut.

It is not because Ryuugamine was holding my hand, pulling me along! I am speaking the truth you know? It is because, if I let her go unwatched, I would be held responsible by the teachers. I would be lying if I said I did not know about this matter...It is because my personality does not allow me to simply become a 《Villager》. Certainly you can say that everyone’s characters are not their true character, but that point has already been made previously. In the end, I am certainly not good at lying.

So, I then arrived at the sand pit that I have not been to for a while, playing with the kids in the sand. The last time I played with sand, I was using the back of a shovel to tap and pack sand, building up a sandcastle, at what time was that

again?

Eh, it really is fun to play with.

After I helped out, the children took an interest in it, playing until they were laughing.

“Onee-chan, you are very good!”

The children that Ryuugamine helped let out sounds of approval from beside her.

I turn my head and I can’t help but let out a sound. Oioi, what is that, Ryuugamine! Well, that is definitely a sand castle! That is not at a level that!

However, isn’t that sand castle completed mostly by you? What are you thinking? Even if you destroy the castle, the children won’t feel a sense of regret, they wouldn’t feel disheartened right?

“Is that so!”

You are arrogant!

“Good, there is only a tiny bit to complete. We will finish it together?”

“Good!”

...It seems that she has become happy, let it be. Speaking of which, she seems to have forgotten her plan to destroy it just as it was completed. Good, we are about to complete it-

“-It all ends right here!”

Mah!

Hearing the sound of a warm familiar voice, my heart nearly stopped beating.

Crap, really crap!

Why would that person be here.

“-Maou! I will not let you do as you wish!”

From the surroundings, a person suddenly appears. Unable to stop the person, the Hero – Tsubasa Hikarigaoka appeared amongst us within a flash. At the same time, waving around her sword.

In a single moment, the recently finished sand castle was reduced to rubble.

Waah!

The children, me and certainly Ryuugamine, even Tsubasa herself had sand all over our heads.

“Hng!”

It was done so quickly like thunder rumbling so soon after the lightning flash that we are unable to cover ears in time, the sand castle that I helped to build was completely destroyed. Only seeing the eyes of the children slowly tearing up...Oi, this really is..Resulting in a lot of people becoming angry.

“You-”

The sword replica was crowded against my throat.

“...You are even helping the Maou; What the hell are you thinking, Jirou?”

“It...It should be me asking you that! What the hell were you thinking! The Hero causing little kids to cry!”

“Eh?”

After I pointed it out, Tsubasa regained her wits, looking at the them holding onto my waist without being willing to let go. They suddenly held back their tears, however, they still looked as if they were about to cry, the one with their hand wrapping around Ryuugamine was also the same.

“Wo...Won’t? Why?”

Tsubasa was suddenly very nervous.

“Why are you guys crying? I am pleading with you!”

“Where did you come from!”

The children seemed angry right now.

“We were simply playing with the onee-chan here!”

This is bad.

People were beginning to gather around the sides.

“Oi, Tsubasa, enough-”

“That...That’s wrong! You guys are misunderstanding!”

Tsubasa anxiously tried to explain, a pair of blue eyes scanned around the area. No good, she had already put me out of her sights. When she is like this, She would not be able to see or hear me.

“I...I am pleading with you guys! You...You don’t know? That girl, in the moment before the sand castle was finished, she planned to destroy it. Causing you to feel disappointment! So, I would act before she could act, before the other side could destroy it. So that you won’t feel disappointment!”

What kind of reasoning is that...! You should not have destroyed it! There is only the difference between day and night, the feeling of misery will not change!³

“Those are words wishful thinking!”

“It’s like that!”

The kids stopped crying, beginning to get angry. This becomes their reaction as the tears begin to go back.

Being looked upon with anger by those kids that she wished to protect, Tsubasa’s understanding of the situation changed. In the end, she looked at me with pleading eyes for help, but unfortunately, I am unable to help you there. I need to make her understand her mistake and then apologize to everyone present.

However, no matter what I say, She probably won’t apologize. However, this time, she was able to see through to the truth, but Ryuugamine’s plan was quite close to what she predicted, in fact the Hero’s sense of justice seems unshakable.

Looking at it like that, her emotions were really there after seeing the tears from the children. Because that person is the Hero, they were trying to stop the Maou’s plans, definitely not to cause more problems.

“Tsubasa.”

I spoke quietly to her.

“Just forget about this and hurry up and leave. If this situation gets out of

hand, those men in black may also return.”

Tsubasa let loose an “Uwah” sound, shrinking her body so much so that the bystanders around were able to see. However she suddenly became red with shame, so that even her neck was red.

It seems as though other people seeing her fear had resulted in her feeling embarrassed.

“You...You better not forget this! I will absolutely not let you get away so easily next time!”

Tsubasa looked at Ryuugamine, letting out words that are normally spoken by the bad guy, and then escaping like a rabbit that is let free.

...Ayah, this is really bad.

I don’t know when, the surrounding people started applauding. Under these conditions, you really have become the bad egg...Tsubasa.

But thinking about it, how was she able to understand the events taking place, able to clearly state Ryuugamine’s plan? There must be something within her body that we are unable to explain, maybe even an extra sensory organ.

...If it was to be said, the Hero really did have an extra sensory organ? Wah, really unique.

In the end, this matter should be treated as completed? After the sand castle was destroyed, the children did not show any feelings of despair.

But I think that this could be related to Ryuugamine’s actions.

“—Ah!”

Suddenly, Ryuugamine let out a cute sound effect.

...Oi.

Those little guys! You still holding onto her without any sign of letting go!

Aaah! Taking advantage of the messy situation, one of them placed their check against her chest! Certainly her chest area is very small, but it is still there! In fact it is very soft! Oi, here comes another one!

Don’t think that since you guys are primary school students you can do as you

wish! I just need to say, not because I am envious of you guys!

“May...May I say...”

Ryuugamine did not know how to act, letting them do as they wished.

“Nee-chan, thank you!”

The one holding onto her without letting go, lifted up her head, Ryuugamine’s expression suddenly froze up.

Eh, wait a moment.

Why are you thanking Ryuugamine? The one who dealt with Tsubasa was me! You little guys, you only want to praise the girl!

“We are really happy! Onee-chan really is good! Suddenly able to make such that sand castle! Can you make another one!

“Such...Such a small thing...nothing can be done about it...”

This time, it was Ryuugamine’s turn to be unable to do anything. Letting out a strange expression, she was indecisively attempting to escape from the children’s grasps, yet rubbing her arms continuously as if itchy – It could be said that she has an itch. Ah, careful! Don’t fall over!

“You, you guys...Don’t...Don’t, don’t need to thank me!”

Ryuugamine turned around and just like Tsubasa, escaped like a rabbit off it’s leash. In the blink of an eye, that small stature disappeared into the crowd of people.

“I am not that kind of girl! I am a bad girl!”

Leaving only her words hanging in the air behind her.

“What...What is with her...”

The children open their mouths wide, asking in a frightened manner.

“Who knows? Probably because she is shy.”

I reply like that.

Actually it isn’t like that. It is a problem with the character. Speaking of Ryuugamine Ouko, when being praised as a good person or on the receiving end

of thanks, it is something that she cannot stand. Looking at her being all itchy and scratchy. It could be said that she had an allergic reaction.

“Good.”

I look upon those kids.

“We will build another castle. As an elder brother, I will help you.”

In the end, the kids exchanged a look, replying:

“Meh, no need.”

“What fun is there in building a sand castle with a guy.”

.....

...

You rascals!

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1. Can't figure out how this line goes = Chinese: ‘.....好遜！’, Japanese: ‘.....せこつ！’ [↩](#)
2. The description is “following the curves and corners” so like you are on an island, instead of crossing by going through the mountain, you follow the beach. [↩](#)
3. I think they mean the difference between breaking it earlier or later. [↩](#)